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20 PAGES 150 FILS

East wind sparks dialogue

Dealing with change

NICOSIA, Jan 15, (Agencies): Gulf Arab ministers meeting today to discuss the political revolution sweeping eastern Europe have adopted plans to deal with the changes, an Omani minister was quoted as saying.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Youssef Bin Alawi said the plans dealt with future relations between the oil-rich Gulf Arab states and eastern Europe but gave no details.

"Eastern Europe has a weight that is bound to have its impact on the world level," the Omani news agency, received in Cyprus, quoted Alawi as saying.

He said the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), a political and economic alliance comprising Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman, wanted to make a "positive contribution in ensuring international peace."

Except for Saudi Arabia, all GCC states maintain relations with Eastern Bloc countries, but the volume of trade between them is negligible.

GCC heads of state at their last summit in December ordered the meeting to debate the political revolution sweeping eastern Europe, superpower detente and plans for a unified European market in 1992.

It was attended by Alawi, Kuwait's Finance Minister Jassim Mohammed Al Khorafi, Bahrain's Information Minister Tariq Al Moayyed and GCC Secretary-General Abdullah Bishara.

Earlier today, Nabil Shaath, an adviser to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat told a marketing course attended by 350 delegates from the six states that Arab interests could be served if they formed a unified economic bloc to take advantage of opportunities generated by the changes.

Last week the Kuwaiti Interior Ministry cautioned citizens assembling in diwanis from discussing any concrete national issues and affirmed that legal action will be taken against violators, a ministry source said.

The source added that this procedure reassures a ministry statement issued last Dec 28 on assembling in diwanis to discuss certain issues, which contradicts the traditional concept of these diwanis.

He indicated that a citizen had called for a public assembly in his private diwaniya at Jafra area of Kuwait on Jan 8, despite being cautioned against such a step, in violation of Law 5 for 1979 regarding public gatherings.

"To maintain law and order and in implementation of a decision by the Council of Ministers in this respect, the (Interior) Ministry took legal measures to prevent and disperse this assembly according to Article 11 of the said law," he noted.

The Interior Ministry called on all citizens to co-operate with it and comply with state laws in this regard.

Hear us — let us hear

THE system that failed in East Europe and that which was shaken in Russia, is the communist regime. It was this regime that fought the traditional conservative or what is called the reactionary regimes.

These conservative or reactionary regimes as described by communism, are spontaneous regimes which did not know how to utilise the opportunity of the communist defeat.

They remained spectators to the downfall of communism in the world. Spectators, in a manner that indicated that the issue did not concern them, or was an occurrence a distance away. They could have utilised the opportunity to speak about themselves and give a greater role to their opinion.

The communist regime was speaking with pride about the people's rule while suppressing the people. It talked about freedom and liberty while assassinating people secretly and openly. It formed the secret police services to kill people and suppress them and in the final analysis, what failed was the communist regime which was contrary to the conservative regimes.

The communist regime has fallen and the conservative regimes were involved in protecting their public opinions from the threat posed by communism. Talking openly is no more frightening — since no one is ready to listen to those who talk in a strange language. People may watch those speaking about imaginary issues, but will not be influenced by what they say.

Now it is vital for these regimes to meet the demands of their people. These demands could be limited presently to sharing opinions and shouldering some responsibilities. It is to be stated that shouldering responsibilities at this time will not be an easy task.

More clarification at the official level of these regimes will certainly be very fruitful — especially now that the dust of change that swept Eastern Europe is spreading.

People wish to hear such clarifications particularly when it is issued officially and publicly.

For example in Kuwait an indirect saying is repeated stressing that there is no one against the popular participation. But, what

is the formula of this participation? Is it the same as the previous one?

In the view of the authority, the previous formula had its shortcomings and there should be a new one. Thus, there is no objection to the popular participation and this has been said on behalf of the authority.

It is important that the ideas of the authority are directly said and published. There is no harm in articulating them, in order to know what the shortcomings of the past were and what is wanted now — particularly when the authority is with democracy, constitution, free system, freedom of expression and the readiness to listen to the people.

Let's declare that openly. Let the government say this frankly in order to cut the way for speculation and rumours.

In such cases, the opinion of the state should be well known and well publicised — in the same manner that other opinions are widely published — whether through the press or other private means.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

to face

Talk... cracy

KUWAIT Radio said yesterday that the democracy that Kuwait requires at the present time is the one where all parties co-operate and co-ordinate to contain the breakout of any crisis.

Commenting on the press conference held by HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister in Cairo, last week, related to the issue of revising the National Assembly in Kuwait, the radio stressed the type of democracy that "unites opinions and strengthens national units — the democracy of consultation ordered by our religion, Islam."

"In its daily news commentary programme, the radio gave extended quotations from speeches of HH the Amir and the Crown Prince referring democracy and its meaning.

The radio emphasised on the fact that Kuwait is a small country and it should adopt dialogue, discussion and consultation as a means to protect itself and its path for development and progress.

Speaking about the great achievements made by Kuwait in the past few decades, the radio attributed this to: "HH the Amir, all Kuwaitis, government and people working as one team" and went on to stress that "the form of the regime is not the end by itself, but a means accepted by society for preserving its integrity and building a bright future." "Any regime should be valued with what it renders to the homeland," the radio added.

We in Kuwait need a democracy based on consultation and dialogue for the interest of the nation and not a democracy based upon feud and heated discussions in which private and public interests mix.

The radio expressed confidence that "our people are able to preserve their inherited cohesion and social values under a system of consultation which is the barrier in the face of those who have ill designs against this country."

The radio added that as HH the Amir said earlier: "Democracy in our country is to place Kuwait first and ourselves to serve and protect it."

Bulgaria reds lose monopoly

SOFIA, Jan 15, (Reuters): Bulgaria scrapped the Communist Party's 45-year-old monopoly on power today clearing the way for multi-party democracy.

In a unanimous vote, parliament formally agreed to strike from the constitution a clause guaranteeing the party's leading role in government.

"We are ready to give up our monopoly guaranteed by law, to study pluralism as a normal state," leading Communist Party Politburo member Andrei Lukanov told the National Assembly before the first of two unanimous votes on the issue.

The assembly formally approved the change to the constitution late in its today's session.

The decision to drop the party's leading role follows the scrapping of similar clauses by Hungary, Poland, East Germany and Czechoslovakia, which like Bulgaria have promised free elections this year.

Bulgaria, which has lagged behind the pace of reforms in other parts of eastern Europe, has been anxious to prove its commitment to democratic change since the ousting of veteran leader Todor Zhivkov by Petar Mladenov two months ago.

A growing tide of public dissent erupted into angry protests by more than 40,000 people outside the national assembly during last month's session when Parliament said it had to delay scrapping of the clause for constitutional reasons.

After the first of the two votes today, Lukanov pledged an open dialogue on democracy with all parties.

"We are ready to conduct an open dialogue with all social and political forces without discrimination," he said.

Emergency in Karabakh

Azeri civil war will be crushed by force, vows premier

MOSCOW, Jan 15, (Agencies): The President of the Soviet Union today declared a state of emergency in the disputed Transcaucasian territory of Nagorno-Karabakh and other areas, Soviet television reported.

The decision gives the military special powers to control public order, such as banning public gatherings which have degenerated into violence approaching a civil war between Soviet Armenians and Azerbaijanis.

Thirty-four people died in anti-Armenian rioting in Baku, the Azerbaijani capital, at the weekend and other deaths were reported today in Azerbaijani villages during ethnic battles over control of Nagorno-Karabakh.

The disputed territory is in Azerbaijan, but has a predominantly Armenian population

which wants to be united with neighbouring Armenia.

The President, under the leadership of President Mikhail Gorbachev, declared the state of emergency in Nagorno-Karabakh "and several other regions," the television said.

It did not name the other areas, but said the complete declaration would be published in the press.

Azerbaijanis and Armenians with machine guns battled each other today as the Soviet Union's bloodiest ethnic conflict worsened.

The Kremlin flew reinforcements of internal security troops to Azerbaijan to try to stop the bloodletting, the worst between the two ethnic groups since their long-smoldering feud in the Caucasus boiled over nearly two years ago.

Mongolians rise too

5,000 march demanding reforms

BEIJING, Jan 15, (Reuters): Popular demands for reforms that have changed the politics of Eastern Europe have spread as far as remote Mongolia where up to 5,000 people demonstrated in the capital, Ulan Bator, yesterday, residents said.

The peaceful protest rally was the communist country's highest in recent history, and perhaps the world's coldest, held in minus 30 degrees Centigrade.

The rally was organised by the Mongolian Democratic Union, an opposition group set up by students and intellectuals last month. The group claims to have 60,000 members.

Tass, the Soviet news agency, which has staff in Ulan Bator, said official approval was given for the rally.

Residents said the authorities forbade the organisers to use Ulan Bator's main square and protesters took their banners to Lenin Square where speakers addressed the crowd from the steps of a cinema.

Many of Mongolia's two million people are still herdsmen earning a living out of deserts and mountains scattered across an area almost three times the size of France sandwiched between the Soviet Union and China.

Other banners seen yesterday said "down with bureaucracy" and "speed up perestroika" — the reforms launched by Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev that have been embraced, but only cautiously, by Mongolian leader Zhambyn Batmunkh.

"People are impatient with the pace of reforms," said a resident by telephone.

"It's escalating," he said, explaining that yesterday's rally was the third and by far the biggest since the Mongolian Democratic Union was formed in mid-December.

(minus 22 Fahrenheit) temperatures for more than an hour.

"Mongolian brothers and sisters to your horses," said the largest banner.

Residents contacted by telephone from neighbouring China said the city, a jumble of tents and conventional concrete blocks, was calm today but another protest was expected next Sunday.

Defiant leader becomes President

Lithuania snubs

MOSCOW, Jan 15, (Agencies): Lithuania's Communist Party chief was overwhelmingly elected the republic's president today in a clear endorsement of his defiant stand against Moscow and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Algirdas Brazauskas was elected 228-4, with 19 abstentions, by the republic's supreme Soviet legislature, the official Soviet news agency Tass reported. He ran against national legislator Kazimieras Motieka and Romualdas Ozolas, a leader of the pro-independence group Sajudis.

Brazauskas, 57, backed the Lithuanian party's decision Dec 20 to break away from the national Communist Party, the first such break since the communists took over in Moscow in 1917.

Gorbachev denounced the move and visited Lithuania last week to try to persuade Lithuanian communists to reverse their decision. But he was forced to conclude his visit on Saturday with only the general statement: "We have laid a good foundation for continuing the dialogue."

During the three-day visit, Gorbachev pleaded for unity repeatedly but

was confronted by pro-independence demonstrators at many stops. Public opinion strongly supports independence for the republic, which was forcibly annexed.

Gorbachev said during his visit that he had no fear of a multi-party system and promised to put calls for secession to a vote.

Eduardas Potasiuskas, a Lithuanian television journalist who closely watches politics in the republic, said the vote would "strengthen the position of Brazauskas in dealing with Moscow."

Brazauskas has been Lithuanian party's first secretary since Oct 20, 1988. His new title, the equivalent of president, is chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet.

He replaced Vytautas Astrauskas, who resigned after serving as the republic's president since December 1987. Astrauskas was regarded by Lithuanian activists as a conservative, but not a vehement opponent of the independence drive.

The Soviet Communist Party's policy-making central committee will meet on Jan 29 to discuss developments in Lithuania.

School studies

Azeris will teach Quran

NICOSIA, Jan 15, (Reuters): Schools in the largely Muslim Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan will soon begin teaching the Holy Quran, the Iranian news agency Irna said today.

The agency, quoted Soviet Azeri poet Bakhtiar Vahhabzadeh as saying classes on the Quran were essential in Azerbaijan where people had been deprived of spiritual fulfillment for years.

Irna said Vahhabzadeh made the remarks last night on Soviet television on broadcast from Baku, capital of Soviet Azerbaijan, and monitored in Ardebil, near the Soviet border in northwest Iran.

Only one person can fly into the USA for less than \$90.



Noriega sells

An advertisement placed by an international airline in a British Sunday newspaper, uses ousted Panamanian dictator General Manuel Noriega as a promotional gimmick for curate flights to the United States.

Noriega was flown out of Panama aboard a US military transport plane to face drug charges. (Reuters wire-photo)



Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, who is expecting her second child soon, holds her 16-month-old son Bilawal. Benazir will be the world's first serving head of state to give birth, but the likely date is Pakistan's best kept secret. (Reuters wirephoto)

'Hands off'

India warns Pakistan

NEW DELHI, Jan 15, (Reuters): India accused Pakistan today of backing Muslim militants in the Indian territory of Kashmir, where at least 23 people have died in a week of secessionist violence.

An Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesman said in a statement: "Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and the only issue to be resolved is vacation of those areas of the state which are illegally occupied by Pakistan."

Anti-Indian violence rocking Kashmir, India's only Muslim majority state, has become a major challenge to Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh's newly-elected government.

The two countries have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir, of which India holds two-thirds of the strategic territory and Pakistan the rest.

New Delhi said a Pakistani statement yesterday that it was deeply worried by violence in India-controlled Kashmir was wanton interference in Indian affairs.

"The Pakistan spokesman's claim that there is no hostile activity across the line of control does not stand scrutiny. There is overwhelming evidence of terrorists receiving support from Pakistan," the Indian statement said.

It accused Islamabad of allowing leaders of the militant Jammu and Kashmir Liberation front (JKLF) to direct threats against India from Pakistani soil.

Indian police said Muslim militants killed an intelligence officer and another passenger in a gun attack on a bus in the Kashmir city of Srinagar today.

The JKLF last month kidnapped Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed's daughter in Srinagar and swapped her for five of its jailed members.

"Victious propaganda is being disseminated by Pakistan's official electronic media," the Indian statement said. "It is not conducive to peace and stability in the region." (See Page 2)

DAY BY DAY

IN our modern day, there is more talk and less work, though it is an established fact that only issues that benefit people will remain alive and "irrelevant talks will perish."

Before being elected president of the US, two candidates face each other in a direct debate. The candidate who cannot transfer his ideas and is not aware of the technique of addressing people fails and goes back to his home. The other who expresses himself well succeeds.

We say this to reiterate the fact that whatever is spoken — even by crazy people, the public is capable of distinguishing.

Zahed Matar

Weather

FAIR weather with light to moderate northwesterly wind.

State of sea: Slight to moderate

High water: 2.00 am, 4.00 pm

Low water: 10.00 am, 10.00 pm

Sunrise: 6.43 am

Sunset: 5.12 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 11°C 52°F

Ahmad: 11°C 52°F

Fallaka: 11°C 52°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 6°C 43°F

Ahmad: 10°C 50°F

Fallaka: 10°C 50°F

Maximum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 13°C 55°F

Ahmad: 12°C 54°F

Fallaka: 12°C 54°F

Maximum humidity recorded:

Kuwait: 68 per cent

Ahmad: 86 per cent

Fallaka: 80 per cent

33 more Lankans murdered

COLOMBO, Jan 15, (AP): Police found the bodies of 17 Sinhalese men dumped along a roadside after they had apparently been shot by pro-government vigilantes, witnesses said today.

They were among the latest victims of the 2 and 1-2-year-old struggle between Sinhalese radicals and the Sinhalese-controlled government.

Reporters in Matala, 105 kilometres (65 miles) northeast of Colombo, said 17 bodies of men ranging in age between 18 and 35 were recovered yesterday from a 5-kilometre (3-mile) stretch of road there.

The reporters, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the men had apparently been shot by vigilante squads in the continuing crackdown against the People's Liberation Front, an ultranationalist Sinhalese guerrilla group.

Human rights organisations say the vigilantes operate with the tacit support of President Ranasinghe Premadasa's government and regularly kill civilians suspected of links with the front.

The government also blames the killings on vigilantes, but says they operate without government support.

Sinhalese militants have been trying since 1987 to overthrow the government, accusing it of making too many concessions to Sri Lanka's Tamil minority in trying to end a Tamil secession.

In other developments, security forces were kept on alert in the eastern Muslim dominated city of Samanthurai after suspected Tamil rebels shot dead a Muslim youth yesterday, officials in Colombo today said.

New Available
The Original
& covered copy of
Indian film



The film is available in Kuwait National Cinema Co's VIDEO SHOPS. It is a copy of the original film, 'TAPASHI', which is a story of a woman's life in a village.

A new militant Hinduism emerging in India

NEW DELHI, (CSM): Saying the Indian government is pampering minorities at the expense of majority Hindus, a growing number of middle class Hindus fear their religion is endangered.

"Hindus have become like a minority," says G. Raguvar, leader of the right-wing Hindu National Volunteer Corps. "They are appeasing the minorities who are starting to dictate to us."

Hinduism, one of the world's oldest and most tolerant religions, is taking on a new image. For three millennia, Hindu culture has been like a sponge, absorbing values and beliefs brought by frequent foreign invaders.

When India was freed from British rule in 1947 and partitioned, Pakistan became a homeland for Muslims, while

predominantly Hindu India was founded on a secular ideal.

Today, Hindus are caught up in the fundamentalist wave sweeping religion. Hindu chauvinism not only challenges Indian secularism, analysts say, it also has stirred religious tensions which will shape politics at home and abroad and pose the biggest threat to the government of Prime Minister V.P. Singh.

"The concept of Hinduism is changing completely," says Romila Thapar, a prominent Indian historian. "The frightening part is that in the next few years we will see a new militant religion emerge in this country."

That changing Hindu view is most evident in the new power of the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Five years ago, the organisation had just two seats in the 545-member lower

house of India's Parliament.

As part of the successful opposition effort to unseat former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi, the party surged to 88 seats in a Parliament where no party enjoys a majority. The party's uneasy support is crucial to the survival of Singh's minority government.

BJP leaders push a controversial agenda they call "positive secularism" which they say will safeguard minorities while giving Hindus their rightful place in the country where they account for 80 per cent of the 800 million population. But critics predict they will undermine secular policies and protections for Muslims and other minorities.

Lal Kisha Advani, the president of the BJP, bristles at suggestions that the organisation is communal. In India,

communalism refers to differences and tensions over religion, language, and caste.

"There's a curious secularism in this country," says the leader, a refugee from Pakistan more than 40 years ago. "A Christian saying he is proud of his religion is a good thing. A Muslim saying he is proud of Islam is a good thing. But Advani saying he is proud to be a Hindu is communalism."

A major test for Singh, who supports secularism but took an ambivalent stand on the temple issue during the campaign, will come in January. At that time, Hindu activists say they will continue work on a new temple on a disputed north Indian site sacred to both Hindus and Muslims.

The controversy already has cost hundreds of lives as Hindus and

Muslims clashed in the election campaign. India's huge Muslim minority is uneasy that the issue will snowball into Hindu demands for other disputed sites. Analysts fear that the BJP rank and file will be emboldened by the party's election strength and override its more moderate leaders.

"Communal antagonism and violence could get worse over the next few months," says Bashiruddin Ahmed, a political scientist at the Centre for Policy Research.

The new Hindu assertiveness also could affect Indian foreign policy toward rival Pakistan and others in the Islamic world.

Former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi was deeply embarrassed before the election when Iran and Saudi Arabia,

key economic partners for energy-poor India, criticised the handling of the shrine controversy.

That international insecurity has combined with Hindu anxieties and resentment at home over poverty, population pressures, joblessness, Westernisation, and expanding programme for lower castes and minorities.

Organisations such as the National Volunteer Corps, founded more than 60 years ago, have resurged in recent years on fears that thousands of years of Hindu tradition are under siege.

"The Hindu way of life here is supreme," says S.P. Kapur, a retired government employee who has been attending the National Volunteer Corps since 1940. "We are patriots and want to safeguard our country."

Radicals kill 2 police officers

Strike paralyses Srinagar

SRINAGAR, Jan 15, (UPI): Kashmir-Muslim radicals today killed two intelligence officers and halted commerce in Srinagar as India said it had "overwhelming evidence of terrorist support" by Pakistan for the separatists.

Life throughout Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir state, was paralysed as businesses and shops closed and residents remained indoors observing a one-day strike to protest the killing of 14 pro-secession protesters by security forces last week during riots in Kashmir towns.

The strike call was issued by political groups on Pakistan's side of the Himalayan region.

Today, officials said an undisclosed number of militants secretly killed two police intelligence officers about a state-run bus in a suburb of Srinagar, north of New Delhi.

The militants brandished guns and ordered the driver to stop at an isolated spot. Officials said the radicals ordered other passengers to leave and then shot the two officers, killing one, M.L. Bhan, instantly.

Officials said the second officer later died at a hospital.

The slayings came eight days after militants killed two police intelligence officials in the nearby districts of Anantnag and Baramulla.

Also today, the radicals continued attacks on government targets, torching two public high schools. Officials said militants also hurled a gasoline bomb at a paramilitary patrol in Srinagar, but there were no casualties.

Meanwhile, a Foreign Ministry spokesman in New Delhi fired the latest volley to an increasingly

strident war of words over Kashmir between India and Pakistan.

Indian spokesman Raju Bhatia condemned Islamabad for expressing on Sunday its concern over escalating violence in Indian Kashmir, saying it was "wantonly interfering in our internal affairs."

"Pakistan's claim of concern about the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is gratuitous and hollow," Bhatia said.

He repeated Indian charges that Pakistan is arming and training pro-secession militants on its side of the UN-monitored ceasefire line established after the 1948 conflict.

"The Pakistan spokesman's claim that there is no hostile activities across the line of actual control (border) does not stand scrutiny. There is overwhelming evidence of terrorist support from Pakistan," he said.

He said that leaders of the most popular pro-secession group, the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, "are routinely being allowed to make statements, even direct threats against India, from Pakistani soil."

"Such actions violate bilateral, regional and international obligations," he said.

New Delhi controls about two-thirds of Kashmir, which has strategic borders with China and the Soviet Union.

The turmoil in Indian Kashmir is emerging as the most serious problem for the new minority National Front government of Prime Minister V.P. Singh. It stems from the wrenching partition of the subcontinent into India and Pakistan in 1947 at independence from Britain.

Pakistan dumb as Benazir is mum

ISLAMABAD, Jan 15, (Reuters): Benazir Bhutto will soon become the world's first prime minister to give birth while in office, but the likely date remains Pakistan's best kept secret.

Not even her closest advisers will admit to knowing when the child is due for fear that it could give the opposition a chance to launch a challenge to her fragile government.

But while Pakistan waits, political analysts say the government's inaction is leading to a stalemate, with a series of tough decisions being put off until after "the birth."

It is two months since all Benazir's ministers submitted their resignations to allow a cabinet reshuffle after an opposition no-confidence motion she narrowly survived.

She asked them to stay on temporarily but has made no move to make changes in a line-up that is widely regarded as short on talent.

"We have a government that has been in a state of resignation since mid-November. That is ridiculous," the daily *Muslim Express* Malakha Lodhi said.

"This inertia has gripped the government party because of the feeling that once she delivers the baby she will deliver something else too," she said.

Political analysts and intelligence sources have been waiting for a month but all the dates come and go without anything happening.

The 36-year-old prime minister is swathed in a figure-concealing shawl whenever she appears in public and it is considered rude in Islamic Pakistan to ask her directly about her pregnancy.

Last week, leaders of her Pakistan People's Party in Karachi jumped the gun by firing off congratulatory messages on the birth of a second son.

Benazir fooled everybody when her first child, Bilawal, was born by Caesarean section on Sept 21, 1988. She was back on the hustings within days.

Most people expected the birth closer to her 16 general elections but Benazir kept her secret and went on to win the polls and become the Muslim world's first woman prime minister.

This birth is also expected to be Caesarean, which gives the prime minister an element of choice about the date.

Government sources say she will take about 10 days off to recuperate, but will then have to come to grips with some of her most pressing problems.

"I think there is going to be an attempt to put things on an even keel but whether she will be successful I do not know," a European diplomat said.

Her problem is that anybody she dismisses from the government will be an instant target for opposition offers and could be tempted to switch sides.

Benazir had a majority of only 12 in November's confidence vote, which leaves little room for mistakes.

After the vote, the prime minister admitted her government had made mistakes in its first year. Since the vote the government has done virtually nothing, said Lodhi.

"What they are failed to do," she said, "is give this government any sense of purpose."

Manila captures a rebel leader

Aquino gives priority to manhunt

MANILA, Jan 15, (Agencies): Philippine police today announced the capture of a rebel military leader and the armed forces chief predicted others involved in last month's bloody coup attempt would be seized "one by one."

President Corazon Aquino told reporters she had ordered Army Chief-of-Staff General Renato De Villa to give priority to the capture of leaders still at large following the December 1-7 putsch.

Aquino said the fear of a further coup attempt would remain until all the plotters were brought to justice.

Bibit admitted involvement in the failed army insurrection when he was presented to reporters today, two days after his capture in Manila's southeastern district of Taguig.

"It's a matter of conviction," he said when asked why he joined the mutiny, the sixth and most serious coup attempt Aquino has faced in her four years in office.

Among those still at large are three generals and seven colonels, including top leader Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, who carried a reward of one million pesos (\$44,500) and ex-brigadier general Edgardo Abenima.

The rightist rebels, maintaining a propaganda barrage against Aquino, said today her government had failed the people and served only the interests of the privileged few.

In a letter published in the Manila Times, Abenima said rebel soldiers would soon bring "real democracy" to the nation.

Alfredo Lim, head of the National Bureau of Investigation, said Bibit would be charged with rebellion and theft of firearms. Lim said Bibit was captured after a tipoff from an unidentified Manila resident.

Aquino yesterday expressed confidence the Philippines had seen the last of army coup attempts and that the country could look forward "to many long years of domestic stability."

But Senate President Jovito Salonga told Filipino reporters that political stability remained the number one problem and warned "unless we can achieve substantial reunification of the armed forces, we may be living from one coup to another."

Manila constabulary commander General Alexander Aguirre told a commission investigating the failed coup today that civilians also took part in the push by siding with the rebels, bringing them food and helping monitor military movements through radio.

He did not identify the civilians.

A provincial governor threatened today to lead a "people power" uprising if Aquino's administration removes him for alleged links to last month's failed coup.

Presidential spokesman Adolf Acosta said the government was determined to prosecute the governor.

Gov. Rodolfo Aguinaldo, a former lieutenant colonel in the Philippine constabulary, said he may order his constituents in northern Cagayan province to attack corrupt government officials.



National Bureau of Investigation director Alfredo Lim (seated) questions Bibit (2nd from left). (Reuters wirephoto)

UK expats demand own lingo

LONDON, Jan 15, (Kuna): Leaders of Britain's Asian communities met Minister of State for Education Angela Rumbold today to demand a higher priority for Asian language in Britain's national school curriculum.

The community leaders, from the British Confederation of Indian Organisations, are pressing for Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi, Bengali and Urdu to be provided in schools where there are enough children who wish to learn them.

At present, all secondary schools in Britain must provide teaching in at least one of eight modern European languages.

But Indian languages and others, such as Arabic and Russian, are only optional.

"We do not expect schools to provide Indian languages for all..." but it would give esteem and recognition to our languages," Tara Mukherjee, president of the confederation, told the Guardian today.

Indo-Maldives accord signed

No defence pact

NEW DELHI, Jan 15, (Kuna): Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Qayoom today ruled out any defence pact with India, saying the Indian Ocean nation faces no danger to its security.

He said a defence treaty was not necessary as there was complete understanding between India and Maldives.

Qayoom was addressing a press conference at Male after signing of an agreement between India and Maldives under which New Delhi will offer technical and economic assistance to the island nation, according to a report received here.

India has also assured to provide more meteorological data from the Indian satellite.

Insat-D. The agreement was signed by Indian External Affairs Minister I.K. Gujral and Maldives Foreign Minister Fathullah Jameel at the end of three-day meeting of the first Indo-Maldives joint economic commission.

Qayoom said India has assisted Maldives in November 1988 to fend off the attack from foreign mercenaries. He said India also assisted in training Maldives national security services force and now this force is better equipped.

Qayoom described Gujral's visit to Maldives as very successful and helped to further promote excellent relations between the two countries.

School Open Day/Registration

(For September 1990)

Applications for entry into Kindergarten — Infant — Junior Departments for the academic year 1990/91, beginning September 1990, are now being accepted.

Admission will be by interview and / or examination.

The School will be open for prospective parents and students to visit on THURSDAY 18th JANUARY 1990 between 8.30 am and 12 noon.

Further details and application forms are available from the administrative offices.

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100 feared dead

CHAR MIRERSARAI, Bangladesh, Jan 15, (Reuters): More than 100 people were feared dead in Bangladesh after a river ferry was in collision with a cargo vessel and sank, officials and witnesses said today.

They said 200 passengers were on the ferry when the collision occurred last night on the Shitalakhyra river 40 km (25 miles) from Dhaka.

Police said they were still trying to track down the cargo vessel, which did not stop after the accident.

Communication Minister Korban Ali told parliament divers had used fishing nets to retrieve 16 bodies but said nearly 100 were still missing.

About half of the 200 passengers swam ashore. A policeman at the scene told reporters many people may have been swept away by strong currents.

Hundreds of people waited for news about relatives on the sandy river bank near the town of Munshiganj.

UN council meets on Cambodia

PARIS, Jan 15, (AP): The five permanent members of the UN Security Council met behind closed doors today and were expected to discuss an Australian proposal for an interim UN administration in Cambodia.

Diplomatic sources said it was unlikely any statement would be issued before the meeting of representatives from Britain, China, France, the United States and the Soviet Union ends tomorrow.

About a dozen supporters of the non-communist resistance in Cambodia gathered outside the international conference centre to protest against the Vietnamese-installed government in Phnom Penh and the communist Khmer Rouge.

"The people of Cambodia cannot and the free world should not resign themselves to an alternative between two despotisms," said a statement signed by 41 French parliamentarians in support of the

demonstrators.

The Australian proposal calls for an interim UN administration, assisted by the Cambodian civil service, to run that country until free elections can be held.

Cambodia's disputed seat in the United Nations, held since 1982 by a tripartite rebel alliance that includes the Khmer Rouge, would be left vacant until a new government is elected.

Vietnam, which invaded Cambodia in 1978, said it completed a troop withdrawal last September.

The 40,000-strong Khmer Rouge, whose fighters launched a bombing attack in Phnom Penh in early January and claim to have shelled the provincial capital of Battambang in northwestern Cambodia.

Hundreds of thousands died in a 1975-78 rule by the Khmer Rouge, who had emptied urban areas and forced many to work in slave labour camps.

PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania: A robber who punched the manager of a small general store did not realise the 72-year-old man standing by the newspaper stand was a former light heavyweight champion.

Former boxer Billy Conn jumped into the struggle and tried to break up the robbery, but the thief got away Wednesday with about \$80 from the store, police said.

Conn and the thief ended up on the floor and the thief got away after dumping the newspaper rack on the boxer's legs, said Conn's wife, Mary Louise, who ran out of the store to summon help.

"My instinct was to get help. Billy's instinct was to fight," she said. (AP)

RALEIGH, North Carolina: The telephone number for tourists interested in vacation information is being answered by people who are not going anywhere.

Working out of a cramped room at the correctional institution for women in Raleigh, six inmates are taking 700 calls a day, a number that will grow in the next three months as people plan summer vacations and respond to state advertisements.

The inmates, working for the highest prison wage of \$1 a day, three weeks ago replaced the two to four state employees who used to answer the calls. The idea was to save the state \$40,000 a year, but officials say the prisoners, with the help of 14 other inmates who stuff envelopes with brochures and maps, also are getting out more information than state employees did.

Inmates and their overseer expressed satisfaction with the programme in interviews with the *Charlotte Observer*. (AP)

MIAMI BEACH, Florida: Is southern Florida big enough for two Manuel Noriega's? A US Navy veteran living in Miami Beach, is not certain.

Noriega says he has been bothered by harassing telephone calls from people who apparently have him confused with his notorious namesake.

"They have been very nasty calls. I try to explain, 'look, you're talking to the wrong guy,'" said the 84-year-old native of Mexico.

He is the only Manuel Noriega listed in the telephone book covering Miami, where deposed Panamanian ruler Manuel Antonio Noriega was arraigned last week on drug trafficking charges.

The Miami Beach Noriega worked for the Latin American division of Dupont before retiring. He coo heads an export business. (AP)

SAN FRANCISCO: Bongos and cable car bells just will not do, says a band that insists the sound of an accordion best distills the essence of San Francisco.

Members of the group called *These Days* Accordions surrounded Mayor Art Agnos outside city hall on Monday as the city weighed a proposal to proclaim the humble, pleated bellows the city's official musical instrument.

"There should be an official city instrument because we have official city songs and we need an instrument to play them on. It should be the accordion because of its rich history here and because it was invented here," said Tom Terriglia, a band member leading the effort.

Besides, said Terriglia of the instrument, "it's a good way to meet girls." (AP)

MIAMI, Florida: Football fan and former president Richard M. Nixon visited an old friend who is running a centre to help people suffering from paralysis.

Nixon spoke Thursday to patients at the Miami project to cure paralysis, founded by former Dolphins linebacker Nick Buoniccontini, a friend since 1972. Buoniccontini and his son, Ware, who was left a quadriplegic after being injured in 1985 during a college football game, were among

Best dressed Jackson no longer a thriller

NEW YORK, Jan 15, (UPI): Michael Jackson is no longer a thriller to some arbiters of sartorial splendour.

The pop megastar, long a favourite of those compiling year-end lists, lost out to comedian Alan King, as the best-dressed entertainer on the fashion foundation of America's 48th annual list of the "best dressed men of the year."

The list, released yesterday, also hailed President George Bush as the best-dressed statesman. Polish Labour leader Tadeusz Walesa as the best-dressed international labour leader and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev as the best-dressed man in "public life."

But the most shocking revelation on the list, compiled from a survey of custom tailors and designers, was the choice of King, the nightclub comedian and movie star, over Jackson.

"A contrast to the costumes of previously listed Michael Jackson is King's formal wear," the foundation said. "A trend to dress up for better enjoyment is seen stimulated by King's appearance."

Also praised on the list were New Jersey Gov. — elect James Florio as the best-dressed in government, New York City Mayor David Dinkins for civic affairs, magazine publisher Malcolm Forbes for society, and representative Edolphus Towns, Democrat of New York, for a legislator.

Rounding out the list were anchorman John Roland of television station WNYW-TV in New York City for communications and palimony attorney Marvin Mitchelson for law.

those showing Nixon the state-of-the-art treatment facility.

"Sometimes all of us feel life's a little tough," Nixon said later. "We have some problems, disappointments. Whenever you get discouraged, you should think of these people. ... it's been an inspiration to me to go through this facility." (AP)

ATLANTA: The widow of US Congressman Mickey Leland, who was expecting at the time of his death in an Ethiopia plane crash last summer, gave birth prematurely on Sunday to twin boys, a spokesman said.

Alana Leland, 31, was in Atlanta for festivities surrounding Monday's Martin Luther King Jr. National Holiday.

Mrs Leland came to Grady Memorial Hospital about 5 am Sunday, and gave birth to the boys around noon (1700 GMT), according to Grady spokesman Jim Driscoll.

She and the boys — one 3 pounds (1.3 kilograms), the other 2 pounds, 11 ounces (1.2 kilograms) — are doing well, Driscoll said. The infants, several weeks premature, are in Grady's special care nursery. (AP)

ROME: Pope John Paul II on Sunday said he has the flu, but the influenza that is sweeping Italy has left him with a healthy sense of humour.

During his ritual Sunday afternoon visit to a Rome parish in his role as bishop of Rome, the Pope joked about his apparently mild illness when he met a group of people converting to Catholicism, the Italian news agency Ansa reported.

"Perhaps you're surprised by the fact that the Pope, even though he's a step away from the children, doesn't hug and kiss them," the Pope joked, according to Ansa.



Sledging on dry land

Using a four-wheel cart complete with steering, Klaas Stapen of a local dog sled team club runs his 10 Alaskan huskies through a dry land track on the outskirts of Rotterdam harbour, Jan 12. Despite

poor snow conditions in Europe this winter, Stapen hopes to compete in an upcoming dog sled race in France. (Reuter wirephoto)

'Hostility totally misplaced'

Rushdie defends himself

LONDON, Jan 15, (Agencies): Author Salman Rushdie is pressing his publishers to bring out a paperback edition of "The Satanic Verses," arguing in a rare interview published today that Muslim hostility toward the book "is totally misplaced."

Rushdie, who has been in hiding under police guard since Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini ordered his execution 11 months ago, was quoted by the *Guardian* newspaper as saying he did not foresee any immediate change in his situation.

"One would wish the thing to come to an end," he was quoted as telling the *London Daily*. "But I'm not the maker of the problem."

Rushdie was also quoted as saying, "I think if some of the people who protested about the book took the trouble to read it, they would see that it is not unsympathetic to them."

More than 1.2 million hardback copies of the novel have been sold since September 1988, but Viking Penguin has yet to bring out a paperback edition.

"The paperback should be published," Rushdie was quoted as saying. "As for my own feelings, you can draw your own conclusions."

Ayatollah Khomeini, the Iranian spiritual leader who died last June, declared the book to be blasphemous to Islam, and on Feb 15 urged Muslims to kill the Indian-born British author and his publishers. The Iranian leadership also offered a \$5.2 million bounty.

"It would be impossible not to be affected by this degree of hostility, which is totally misplaced," Rushdie was quoted as saying. "I am not the enemy of my own people. I do not feel like the enemy of my people."

Rushdie declined to discuss his security arrangements, but was quoted as saying, "you shouldn't assume I have very much freedom at all."

Rushdie, 42, said he is writing a children's novel, which he hopes to finish in March, and has been buoyed by support from friends and readers.

"It's nice to know there is something other than anger aimed at me," he was quoted as saying. "I do get a great many letters of support, including some from Muslims who've read the book."

Before splitting with her husband in July, Rushdie's American wife Marianne Wiggins said they had been moved constantly by their guards and slept in 36 different beds while in hiding together.

In the interview, Rushdie urged that his publisher, Viking Penguin, should issue "The Satanic Verses" in paperback. British bookshops stocking the hardcover edition have been the target of bomb threats and arson attacks.

Asked whether he planned to write a book about his present situation, Rushdie replied: "It's not a question I can really begin to think about at the moment. In the future, who knows?"

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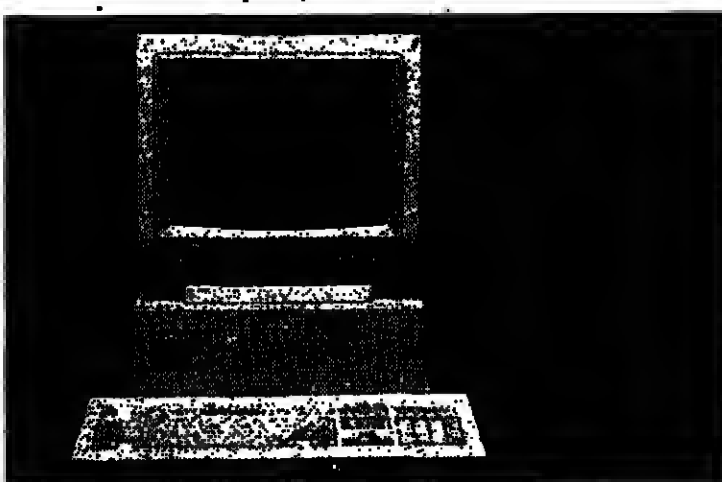
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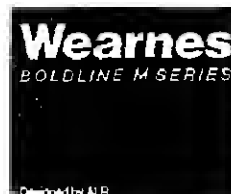
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Mission accomplished

Shuttle crew turn to daily work



Space shuttle astronaut Marsha Ivins (top) works with a bread mould experiment aboard the Columbia, Jan 14, during the sixth day in Earth orbit. Astronaut Bonnie Dunbar (bottom), prepares to take photographs through windows on the Columbia. (Rauter wirephoto)

HOUSTON, Jan 15. (Reuters): The crew of the space shuttle Columbia, halfway through their mission, yesterday turned from such dramatic missions as retrieving a falling satellite to more routine medical and engineering experiments.

"It was probably one of our easier days during the mission," Commander Dan Brandenstein, 46, told mission control in Houston about halfway through the mission.

"The very exciting activities... are behind us, but we're still working on numerous objectives in materials processing and extended-duration orbiter medical experiments."

Columbia is scheduled to continue orbiting with its payload bay directed towards the Earth to protect its prized cargo, the Long Duration Exposure Facility (LDEF), from collision with minute, corrosive particles of oxygen.

The bus-sized satellite, retrieved on Friday, was launched in April 1984 to test the effects of prolonged exposure in space on items ranging from seeds to spacecraft construction materials. The LDEF would have burned up when it re-entered the Earth's atmosphere by late March had it not been rescued.

Early yesterday, mission specialist G. David Low, 33, took his turn practicing with Columbia's robot arm and manoeuvring its "wrist" camera to photograph the ship's port wing.

The crew also restarted an experiment halted on Saturday when a phial of a potentially toxic chemical cracked, causing concern that glass silvers and chemical particles might float free in the cabin if the container shattered. The crew was directed to wear protective goggles and to handle future chemical samples in a vacuum chamber.

Low spent part of yesterday's running on a treadmill while mission specialist Marsha Ivins monitored his heart activity in a test designed to study the effects of extended space flight on the cardiovascular system.

Scientists say that while blood pools in the feet and legs on Earth they believe that in space it gathers in the chest and head, putting pressure on blood vessels and triggering kidney activity to remove what the body thinks is excess fluid.

Columbia is scheduled to land at Edwards Air Force Base in California on Friday morning.

College education Ratio drops

WASHINGTON, Jan 15. (UPI): The percentage of minority young people attending college has plummeted since the mid-1970s, and the decline surprisingly has been about as sharp for middle-class students as poor ones, a report said yesterday.

The American Council on Education Study said the percentage of white young people going to college, meanwhile, has increased, "widening the long-standing college-participation gap between whites and African Americans and Hispanics."

"Since the mid-1970s, the college participation of African Americans and Hispanics has been a picture not of progress, but of major regression," said the "Eighth annual status report on minorities in higher education."

The study attributed the decline at least partly to a shift in helping students pay for college with loans instead of grants, higher college admission standards and increasing numbers of young black men from middle-income and upper-income backgrounds joining the military.

The study said between 1976 and 1988 the percentage of low-income black high school graduates going on to college declined from 40 per cent to 30 per cent and the percentage of low-income Hispanics fell from 50 per cent to 35 per cent, "indicating an educational failure rate of intolerable magnitude."

Hate crimes on the rise

Old problem, new attention

NEW YORK, Jan 15. (AP): Bombings in the south and random acts of violence and vandalism across the country have given rise to fears that a new wave of racially and ethnically motivated crime is sweeping the United States.

Nearly every day brings a fresh report from somewhere.

— From Portland, Oregon, where skinheads were charged with beating a 15-year-old Hispanic girl; — From Wellesley, Massachusetts, where two young men were arrested for spray-painting swastikas and racist slogans on walls; — From New York City, where a gang of white youths was charged with killing a black man who crossed into their turf.

New organisations have sprung up to fight racism, and police, judges and legislators are taking a harder look at what they can do to prevent such crime.

But among those who closely monitor what are commonly called "hate crimes," there is disagreement about whether racism is really resurgent. Some argue that only the reporting of racial crime has increased, not the crime itself.

"The paradox is that the better you are at reporting, the worse your picture is going to look," said Col Leonard Supenski, who heads the police crime prevention bureau in Baltimore county, Maryland.

Supenski speaks from experience. His police department was one of the first in the nation to begin reporting hate crimes in a category of their own.

Baltimore county has kept statistics on racial, religious and ethnic incidents since 1979, and its figures show a slight increase last year after four years of decline.

The increase could be the result of a more sensitive police force, quicker to recognise a racist motive behind a crime. It could be the result of a more trusting public, more likely to report a crime. Or it could just be part of what Supenski calls the "ebb and flow" of crime.

Only a handful of cities around the nation have kept track of hate crimes for very long; one is New York City, where "bias crimes" were down slightly during the first 10 months of 1989. They had been down sharply until Aug 23, when a gang of whites surrounded a 16-year-old black youth, Yusuf Hawkins, and shot him to death on a Brooklyn street. Ripples of lesser racial incidents—tauntings, beatings—spread across the city.

Inspector Paul M. Sanderson, who heads the New York police department's bias crime unit, isn't persuaded that racist crime is really changing. "There is no pattern," he said.

Still, there are others who say racist crime is getting worse. They see neo-Nazi skinheads pumping new life into the Ku Klux Klan, they hear about racism sprouting on college campuses, and they can tick off lists of violent incidents around the country that have nothing in common but their motive—prejudice.

One such person is Bill Tafaya, who teaches long-range planning at the FBI academy in Quantico, Virginia. His specialty is civil disorder.

Tafaya believes the increase is real and says other researchers agree.

Besides, police have become interested in hate



KKK meet despite prohibition

A small girl carries a cross as she joins her father during a Ku Klux Klan gathering on the courthouse square in Tennessee despite a court order prohibiting them meeting, Jan 13. The KKK had sought a parade permit to protest against Martin Luther King Day. (Rauter wirephoto)

crime — Tafaya knows because he's constantly asked to lecture to them.

More police departments around the nation are beginning to follow the lead of Baltimore county, New York City and Boston—pioneers in establishing special programmes to fight hate crime.

Minneapolis started a bias crime programme in 1987; Philadelphia, San Francisco and Portland, Oregon, are among other cities that now pay special attention to hate crime.

Most such programmes have two basic goals: to keep separate reports on hate crimes so that investigators can spot patterns, and to assure the public that such crimes will not be tolerated.

"If the people don't have a sense that they can go to the police, and go to the courts, they're going to go to the streets," explained Sgt Bill Johnston, who directs the Boston police department's community disorders unit.

Reporting is considered especially important. There are no national statistics on hate crime now, which is one reason that people disagree about it. A bill pending in Congress would require the justice department to collect such data.

In the meantime, at least 10 states have passed laws in the past few years requiring their police departments to collect data on hate crimes. And lawmakers are finding other ways to battle racist crime.

Bogota holds cartel mercenaries

BOGOTA, Jan 15. (AP): The army has arrested more than 1,000 people in an attempt to dismantle the private army of the chief of the Medellin cocaine cartel, reports said yesterday.

The army operation against the head of the Medellin cartel, Pablo Escobar, came as the Justice Ministry ordered the arrest of Gilberto Rodriguez Orejuela, chief of the cartel centered around the western city of Cali.

An attempt to extradite Rodriguez to the United States two years ago collapsed when a judge ruled there was no merit to the charges that he smuggled 20 tonnes of cocaine into the

United States.

A new attempt to extradite Rodriguez is based upon charges of laundering money coming from cocaine sales in the United States, the Justice Ministry said in a communique yesterday.

The Cali Cartel is based in the western city of Cali.

There were conflicting versions over the number of people detained in the northwestern city of Medellin, where the army was combing poor areas known to be the source of gunmen for Escobar's army of hired killers.

The Colombian Radio Network RCN said yesterday, quoting army sources, that the operation has resulted in the arrest of 1,800 persons.

The Bogota daily El Tiempo, the nation's largest and most reliable, quoted Army Gen. Harold Bedoya Pizarro as saying the army has arrested 2,500 persons belonging to 150 gangs working for Escobar.

The Defence Ministry was closed yesterday, and the reports could not be confirmed.

In Medellin, 28 people have been kidnapped in the last two months. Drug traffickers issued a

communique Jan 4 encouraging people in poor neighbourhoods to fight on the side of the cartel.

The communique urged people in slum areas to kidnap wealthy Colombians and hold them for ransom. Half the money would go for decent housing for the poor, and half for the Medellin Cartel's war on the government, the communique said.

Escobar has built hundreds of brick and concrete block houses for the poor in Medellin slums, replacing shanties of scrap wood and tar paper.

King's widow calls on Bush

ATLANTA, Jan 14. (AP): Slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was remembered in church services nation-wide on the eve of the holiday, which would have been his 61st birthday.

His widow, Coretta Scott King, delivered her annual "State of the Dream" address yesterday at Ebenezer Baptist Church, the church where her husband was pastor, before about 1,000 people, including such civil rights leaders as the Revs. Jesse Jackson and Joseph Lowery.

Mrs King reflected on the dramatic social changes of 1989 in other parts of the world and her husband's philosophy of civil disobedience.

"The cataclysmic changes we have seen in Eastern Europe, in China and in South Africa since last year have deep roots in this very pulpit," she said.

Mrs King, noting that US President George Bush is to deliver his state of the union address in a few days, recalled a state of the union speech in the 1960s by then-President Lyndon Johnson.

Johnson "captured the imagination of the American people just by saying three little words, 'we shall overcome,'" Mrs King said.

"A quarter of a century later, President Bush has the same opportunity," she said. "He can help unify America if he will break with the past by ending the arms race and working for programmes to provide jobs and educational opportunities for all Americans."

"If he will avoid the kind of military entanglements that destroyed (Johnson's) war on poverty, he can unify America and lead the world to a higher destiny," Mrs King said.

Jack Kemp, US Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, presented Mrs King with a large photograph of a Chinese student standing in Beijing's Tiananmen Square holding a sign reading, "We shall overcome."

Earlier, Jackson, a former democratic presidential contender and former King aide, spoke to textile workers in Louisville in central Georgia from the steps of the Jefferson County Courthouse within sight of an old slave auction block.

He urged all workers to stand up against their bosses for a living wage and decent working conditions.

In New York City, Mayor David Dinkins, the first black to hold that office, told about 400 people at Johnson Memorial Church about King's struggle for equality and the need to continue.

"Dr King took us to the dawn of a new era," Dinkins said. "It is up to us to push on into the bright light of day."

"Dr King dreamed of an inclusive society, where people would be judged by their good will and their good deeds," he said. "That is my dream for our city."

■ A renegade Black Roman Catholic priest yesterday declared Martin Luther King Jr. a saint but Vatican officials said the slain civil rights leader was ineligible for canonisation.

The Rev. George A. Stallings told a congregation of nearly 900 people that to canonise King was to "ratify what God had already done."

"Martin Luther King, Jr. is a saint by virtue of his life work, his communion with God and his sharing in the joys of everlasting life," said Stallings.

In a lavish three-hour service Stallings said King was "a doctor and martyr" and exhorted the worshippers to follow King's example by dedicating their lives to a cause.



Mrs. King (centre) gets a hug from her son Martin Luther King III (right) while Jesse Jackson applauds. (Rauter wirephoto)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mom charged in girl's slaying: A woman recently released from a psychiatric centre was charged Sunday with the stabbing murder of her 9-year-old daughter, whose body was found near a message written in blood and signed, "her mother."

Brenda Maxey, 38, was charged with first-degree murder, then taken to Cook County hospital for treatment of injuries suffered in an apparent suicide attempt, police said.

Maxey was taken into custody Saturday as she sat alone on a street about five blocks from the abandoned six-unit apartment building where police on Thursday found her daughter, Keisha, stabbed to death. (UPI)

Blind rape victim identifies: A legally blind woman was able to identify a 14-year-old as the youth who raped her by smelling his cologne and feeling his hands, authorities said Sunday.

The 24-year-old woman — whose eyesight is so poor she can distinguish only between light and dark — was raped in the laundry room of her north side apartment building Saturday night, police Lt Lee Hamilton said. (UPI)

Bus collision kills 33: A freight train hit an overloaded bus at a railroad crossing on Sunday, killing at least 33 people and injuring 26 others, the Red Cross said.

Everyone on the bus, which has seats for only 45 passengers but was carrying 59, was either killed or injured, said Jose Luis Quintero, head of the Red Cross in Leon, 170 miles (275 km) northwest of Mexico City. (AP)

Duarte reported dying: Former Salvadoran President Jose Napoleón Duarte, who has incurable cancer, left Guatemala for home on Sunday, and his personal physician said Duarte was dying.

Carlos Armando Soto Gomez, Duarte's doctor, said the former president was accompanied by his wife Ines and son Alejandro. He flew home early Sunday afternoon on a Guatemalan Air Force jet, loaned by Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo.

Soto Gomez said last Friday that the 64-year-old former president would travel to Washington on Jan 23 for cancer treatment at Walter Reed Army Medical Centre. (AP)

Bush mourns death: President George Bush on Sunday expressed his condolences on the death of Hyman Schachtel, saying the Houston rabbi had been an inspiration to him, the White House said.

Spokesman John Herrick said the President, staying the weekend at his Camp David retreat in Maryland's Catoctin Mountains, telephoned Schachtel's wife, Barbara, to express his regrets on the rabbi's death on Friday in Houston.

Schachtel, 82, was the Rabbi Emeritus of the Beth Israel Congregation in Houston. (Rauter)

UN meet on climate change: Scientists at an international meeting on climate change have said the burning of tropical forests contributes about a quarter of the "greenhouse gases" responsible for global warming.

The meeting, organised by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), was held at the University of Sao Paulo from January 9 to 11, but was closed to the news media.

Participants said the meeting, which brought together dozens of experts from Latin America, Europe, the United States, Asia and Africa, highlighted the need to slow the destruction of the world's rapidly dwindling forests. (Rauter)

Giacarini offers to quit: Peruvian Defence Minister Julio Velasquez Giacarini offered to resign on Sunday, official sources said, five days after leftist guerrillas gunned down his predecessor.

Velasquez Giacarini, who assumed the post in May last year, handed in his resignation but President Alan Garcia did not immediately decide whether to accept it, said the sources, who are close to Garcia.

Leftist rebels assassinated former defence minister Enrique Lopez Albujar outside a Lima shopping centre on Tuesday in an attack which stunned the nation and brought fresh criticism of Garcia's handling of guerrilla violence. (Rauter)

Sen. Joseph Clark, 88 dies: Former US Sen. Joseph S. Clark, a civil rights advocate in Congress and champion of reform in Philadelphia, has died.

Clark, 88, died at his home Friday, said his wife, Iris.

In 1951, Clark became the city's first democratic mayor in 63 years, ending a corruption-ridden Republican administration. Five years later, he was elected to the first of two terms in the Senate. He gained distinction as one of the earliest critics of the Vietnam war and a proponent of congressional reform. (AP)

'Peter Principle' author dies: Laurence J. Peter, whose "Peter Principle" held that bureaucratic problems often occur because employees routinely are promoted beyond their competence, has died at the age of 70.

Peter, who suffered from heart trouble and a stroke, died in his sleep at his Palos Verdes home, his wife, Irene, said Sunday.

Peter and Raymond Hull wrote the 1969 best-seller, "The Peter Principle: Why Things Always Go Wrong," a satirical chronicle of incompetence based on Peter's experience with educational and other bureaucracies.

According to Peter, every employee in a hierarchy tends to be promoted as long as he can do his job to his superior's satisfaction. (AP)

Disney to build new theme park, Soviet pavilion

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Florida, Jan 15. (AP): A fourth theme park, a Soviet pavilion and seven new hotels will be among major projects to be built during a decade of rapid expansion at Florida's Disney World, Disney chairman Michael Eisner has announced.

The 1990s also will feature the entertainment conglomerate's venture into time-share vacation units, and it plans to open 29 new attractions at its three existing Florida parks: The Magic Kingdom, Epcot Centre and Disney-MGM Studios.

Walt Disney Co. already has plans to open Euro Disneyland near Paris and to build studio attractions

at its Japanese and California parks during the next few years, among other additions, Eisner said. On Friday, Disney said it is studying the possibility of opening another southern California theme park.

"But this is the place where the 'Disney decade' will have the most impact," he said yesterday.

Eisner would not put a price tag on any of the new projects but said each "must give the Walt Disney Co. the required return on investment."

The company's objectives are to grow about 20 per cent a year "and have a return on equity of 20 per cent for the next decade — so we can stay healthy."

Disney expects total attendance at all its parks to approach 100 million visits a year by the end of the century, said company president Frank Wells.

Though Disney does not provide annual attendance figures, published reports have said that Disney attractions world-wide drew about 30 million people last year.

Negotiations with Soviet officials have been taking place for years, and an agreement on a Soviet pavilion at Epcot Centre is near, Eisner said. Also to be announced soon, he said, are plans for a Swiss pavilion featuring a Matterhorn ride.

The high-powered arms used by drug mobs and the chemicals needed to refine coca into cocaine come mostly from outside the cocaine-producing countries.

Latam agrees on drug accord

SANTA CRUZ, Bolivia, Jan 15. (AP): The United States and the cocaine-producing countries of Colombia, Peru and Bolivia yesterday reached agreement on plans for a joint assault on narcotics trafficking.

The details of the plan are not to be made public until its scheduled signing Feb 15 at a "drug summit" of the four nations in Colombia.

A one-paragraph news release issued by chief delegates to the pre-summit meeting in Santa Cruz said they "achieved the goals" set for them and expected the four countries' presidents would adopt a "joint, integral and co-ordinated strategy against the serious problem of illegal drugs and their economic and social effects."

In a speech at the meeting's pre-dawn conclusion, Bolivian Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde sketched out the agreement in general terms.

He said it recognised the three South American countries have pledged themselves to a full-fledged military campaign against the cocaine trade. In turn, the United States recognises these countries need more US economic aid.

The cocaine trade, although illegal, provides a substantial income to many residents of these developing countries.

Iturralde said the accord represented "an integral commitment by the four countries, which have proposed, carrying out a frontal and unstopable assault on narcotics trafficking."

Iturralde's address came at 4.30 am, after wrangling forced a lengthy final session. Delegates said the delay was prompted by arguments over how US assistance should be directed and what conditions would be attached to it.

The United States insists that the flow of aid money depend on a country's dedication and performance in the anti-drug effort. The US delegation chief, deputy Assistant Secretary of State Michael Skol, told reporters at the meeting's end that he was happy with the agreement.

"We are very satisfied," Skol said. "We have prepared the way for a very successful summit. He declined to elaborate.

Presidents George Bush of the United States, Virgilio Barco of Colombia and Jaime Paz Zamora of Bolivia are to sign the agreement at the summit in Cartagena, Colombia. Peruvian President Alan Garcia has said he will attend the summit only if US troops first are withdrawn from Panama, but Peru plans high-level participation in any case.

Peruvian delegation chief Armando Lencaras, a Foreign Ministry sub-secretary, told reporters the conditions for Garcia's attendance of the summit were not discussed in Santa Cruz. "Nothing has changed," he told reporters.

Lencaras said the South American countries have persuaded the United States to "eliminate some of the conditions" applying to US aid. Other delegates, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the United States agreed to a request for aid in cases where the anti-drug campaign hurt a South American country's economy.

However, the producer countries in turn agreed to pursue sound economic policies as they quit their dependence on drug profits, delegates said.

"The money and goods from drug trafficking must be eliminated from our economies and replaced by legal sources of income," Iturralde said. At the same time, he added, "weapons and precursor chemicals must be efficiently controlled."

The high-powered arms used by drug mobs and the chemicals needed to refine coca into cocaine come mostly from outside the cocaine-producing countries.

Iturralde said the accord commits the South American countries to using "all the means they have available," including the armed forces, in the war on trafficking.

كذلك انهم

INTERNATIONAL



Four killed in explosion

A forensic specialist takes the fingerprints of one of four individuals killed Jan 14 in an explosion in San Salvador. (Reuters wirephoto)

Salvador bishop praises Cristiani

SAN SALVADOR, Jan 15, (AP) — San Salvador's auxiliary bishop, in yesterday's homily, praised President Alfredo Cristiani for identifying four officers and five soldiers suspected of murdering six Jesuit priests.

However, Monsignor Gregorio Rosa Chavez urged further steps to end the cycle of violence in the country's 10-year civil war between the US-backed government and leftist rebels.

About 70,000 people, most of them civilians, have been killed. "Now that Mr. Cristiani has made public the names of those implicated in the assassination of the six Jesuit priests, the possibility that El Salvador will regain confidence in its institutions has grown," the bishop said.

But, he added, "it's not enough to punish some. It is necessary to completely revise the criteria to define who are really enemies of the people and enemies of the nation."

"This seems like a good start, but it's not the end," Cristiani announced Saturday that an army colonel, three lieutenants and five enlisted men were suspected in the November killings.

Eight of the suspects, he said, "have been placed at the disposition of the special investigative commission" looking into the murders. Cristiani said a ninth suspect, a private, deserted from the armed forces last month and was a fugitive.

Cristiani's planned trip to Washington this week has been postponed, a government spokesman said yesterday. The spokesman said Cristiani changed his plans because UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar was unable to meet with him as scheduled.

Cristiani did not say specifically on Saturday that the eight suspects had been arrested, but sources close to the investigation said the men were indeed under arrest. They have not yet been formally charged.

The colonel was identified as Guillermo Alfredo Benavides Moreo. He is the highest-ranking military officer to be officially accused of a human rights violation in the decade of government-rebel fighting.

Rosa Chavez said the government "has insisted that this be treated simply as a group of members of the army who have been misled by the honour of the military." He added, "it is difficult for us to accept this conclusion."

"We realise that the mission of the church, especially in the countryside promoting human rights, is misunderstood by the military world," the bishop said. ■ A US officer heard a rumour that the Salvadorean armed forces were involved in the murder of six Jesuit priests but did not have advance knowledge of the killings, the US Defence Department said yesterday.

Pentagon spokesman Rick Oborn said the officer, who he declined to identify, heard the rumour more than a month after gunmen massacred the priests on Nov 16 in San Salvador.

The officer has now provided Salvadorean authorities with a written statement. He did not pass on the information because he thought the authorities already had it, the spokesman said.

Noriega once praised

500 Cubans seek US asylum

Cuban envoy detained briefly

WASHINGTON, Jan 15, (AP) — While federal prosecutors were moving to indict Panama's Manuel Antonio Noriega on narcotics charges, the Drug Enforcement Administration was maintaining close ties with him and offering praise for his cooperation in the war against drugs, a congressional report shows.

"The DEA has long welcomed our close association and we stand ready to proceed jointly against international drug traffickers whenever the opportunity arises," drug enforcement administrator Jack Lawn wrote to Noriega less than a year before the indictment was entered in federal court in Miami in February 1988.

Lawn had special praise for the work of Luis Quiel, Noriega's liaison to the DEA, as "integral to the success of fighting international drug trafficking."

But according to the final report of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Narcotics, issued in December 1988, Quiel was also Noriega's liaison to the Medellín drug cartel and "thus in a position to alert the drug traffickers to whatever information the DEA had provided him."

Quiel also acted "as Noriega's enforcer to eliminate competitors of the Medellín cartel by turning them over to the United States," the panel said.

The report, issued in December 1988 after a three-year investigation, paints a vivid portrait of Noriega and his involvement with drugs, money laundering, gun running and other illegal activities over his 20-year rise to power as Panama's military strongman.

The first links between Panamanian officials and narcotics traffickers were forged while Gen. Omar Torrijos ruled Panama, the report said.

But after Torrijos died in an airplane crash in 1981, Noriega took charge of the country's most important institutions, using them to generate revenue for officers of the new Panamanian Defence Force and to exercise control over the drug traffic, it said.

Before he was ousted last month by the US invasion of his country, Noriega controlled the customs, immigration and passport services, civil aeronautics, the National Bank of Panama and the attorney general's office.

The report said it had evidence of money laundering and alleged that Noriega's associates began to smuggle narcotics themselves using light planes. But in 1984, Noriega's interests clashed with those of the Medellín cartel.

Noriega, the panel said, had permitted the cartel to establish cocaine processing plants in Panama, including one at La Palma in Darien province near the Colombian border.

It alleged that Noriega accepted \$5 million from the drug cartel to protect the facility.

But in mid-May 1984, concerned about pressure from the DEA, Noriega ordered his soldiers to raid the plant and arrest its employees.

PANAMA CITY, Jan 15, (AP) — For the second time since the Dec 20 US invasion, US soldiers briefly detained the Cuban Ambassador to Panama yesterday.

Also yesterday, about 500 Cubans asked for asylum in the United States, and former president Manuel Solis Palma reportedly was waiting in the Venezuelan embassy for word on his petition for asylum in that country.

Solis Palma had served as Panama's nominal leader last year, while Manuel Antonio Noriega effectively controlled the country through its military.

The Cuban consul said yesterday that US soldiers were holding the Cuban Ambassador, Lazaro Mora Secada, and two other officials of the Cuban Embassy.

A US Embassy official confirmed the report but said the ambassador was released. "It's been resolved," the official said by telephone, without elaborating on the reasons for the detention.

Since 1:45 pm about 22 soldiers detained the ambassador at a roadblock beside the embassy, Jose Luis Mendez Mendez, the Cuban consul, said by telephone.

"The ambassador was going home in a vehicle with diplomatic plates," Mendez said. "They took his passport and would not let him leave if he didn't let them check them."

Soon after the invasion, Mora was stopped by US forces and went with them to obtain documents for another embassy employee travelling with him.

The Cuban Embassy has given refuge to Noriega's family since he was deposed in the Dec 20 US invasion. The Panamanian government of Guillermo Endara, which replaced Noriega, has refused to allow the family to leave for exile in the Dominican Republic.

Noriega sought refuge in the Vatican Embassy on Christmas eve and surrendered to US forces 10 days later. He is awaiting trial on drug charges in Miami.

Hector Higuera, vice president of the Cuban Refugee Commission of Panama, said the 500 refugees are asking the US and Panamanian governments "that they give their technical and material support... for the United States to urgently accept their immigration."

Higuera said the Cuban refugees do not have permission to work and have no rights in Panama. He said that under a deal between Cuba and the deposed Noriega government, the Cubans paid \$8,000 to \$25,000 to come to Panama as a transit point to the United States.

■ Panama has asked the United States for \$700 million to help rebuild businesses looted during the US invasion and \$35 million to rebuild the area around the blasted headquarters of Noriega, President Guillermo Endara said yesterday.

Feeling betrayed, the cartel's leaders ordered Noriega's assassination, the panel said, quoting a Noriega associate, former Panamanian intelligence official Jose Blandon.

Blandon testified that Noriega turned to Cuban Premier Fidel Castro, and accepted Castro's recommendation that he return the \$5 million and the plant machinery and release the 23 persons who had been arrested.

US law enforcement agencies continued to view Noriega as a friend of the United States, the subcommittee said.

Hong Kong must face China reality: Hurd

UK pledges support, calls for talks

HONG KONG, Jan 15, (UPI) — British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd pledged continuing support for Hong Kong today but said the British colony must face up to the reality that it would revert to China in 1997.

"We (Britain) must do what we can to ensure the final chapter in our long administration of Hong Kong is an honourable one and one which ends successfully," he told businessmen.

"The basis of the future is not independence. But the basis of the future is one country, two systems," he said, referring to communist

in 1991, while the colony's 60-member legislative council seeks 20 elected seats next year and a majority by 1997.

"This thing that we established before 1997 should be part of a process which would continue in the years thereafter," Hurd said. "That would be the best plan. We are frankly not interested in scoring debating points about this."

"We want to start a process of democracy in Hong Kong which will attract sensible people in here to play a full role in political life."

Hurd's four-day visit to Hong Kong, which began Saturday, is his first since taking office. His trip followed China's condemnation of a plan to grant British citizenship to up to 225,000 Hong Kong people in a bid to restore public confidence shattered by China's brutal crackdown on democracy forces in June.

"We had to balance our wish to be as generous as possible against our ability to accept people for settlement in Britain should that ever be necessary," he said, defending London's decision not to grant right of abode to all 3.25 million British overseas passport holders in the colony.

China charged the plan was subversive and accused Britain of violating the 1984 Sino-British joint declaration on Hong Kong by allowing much of the colony's top talent to leave.

Hurd described current Sino-British relations as "difficult" but said Britain needed and wanted to rebuild ties with Beijing.

Hurd defended the joint declaration, which set out the ground rules for China's resuming sovereignty of Hong Kong and its 5.7 million people in 1997 at the end of Britain's 99-year lease, saying it was the best possible deal for the colony despite complaints that it was weighted heavily in favour of China.

"The joint declaration is the best framework," Hurd said. "It requires a continuous discussion on equal terms with the Chinese government and it is, frankly, frivolous to pretend otherwise. What we have to do is to turn the joint declaration into reality."

Hurd also defended Britain's move to begin forcibly repatriating Vietnamese boat people from the colony's overcrowded detention centres.

The first 51 boat people sent back to Vietnam Dec 12 sparked widespread international criticism but Britain and Hong Kong have pledged to continue the policy.

"Hong Kong can't be expected to cope with an endless stream of immigrants from Vietnam who have no prospects of ever finding resettlement and a new home in the West," Hurd said.

"I look for greater and more practical understanding on this from the international community when we have the next meeting in Geneva of the (UN) Steering Committee (on refugees) later this month."

■ Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Zhou Nan has been named China's chief representative in Hong Kong, the official Xinhua News Agency announced today.

Amnesty criticism of HK rejected

HONG KONG, Jan 15, (Reuters) — The human-rights group Amnesty International today strongly criticised Britain and Hong Kong for the treatment of Vietnamese boat people, saying it had evidence of brutal behaviour by police and prison guards.

The Hong Kong government described Amnesty's allegations as "unfounded."

A report by Amnesty investigators who visited the British colony in November and December said some of the 51 boat people forcibly repatriated by Hong Kong in the dead of night last month had been brutally treated some weeks earlier.

The victims and eyewitnesses told Amnesty International that a large contingent of officers in riot gear had used partial strangulation, kicks and beatings to force them out of their huts at Chi Ma Wan Camp in a dawn raid on October 31, the report said.

"Independent medical examination of five of the victims showed injuries consistent with their claims that they were forcibly dragged from their huts," it said.

Hong Kong's Secretary for Security, Geoffrey Barnes said: "There is no truth whatsoever in the accusation that people at Chi Ma Wan were ill-treated or rendered unconscious. None was stunned or became unconscious or was knocked to the ground."

Such charges had been fully investigated, he added. Amnesty earlier said it had been told by letter that Hong Kong Governor Sir David Wilson had decided an independent inquiry into allegations of ill-treatment was not justified.

Hong Kong, reluctant host to nearly 56,000 Vietnamese boat people, considers more than 43,000 as of them to be illegal immigrants unless they can prove they are genuine refugees under the United Nations criteria.

The 43,000 arrived after Hong Kong introduced a screening process on June 16, 1988, to separate genuine refugees from economic migrants. Screening was supposed to be a deterrent to further migration.

Economic migrants who flee poverty rather than political persecution face deportation like any other illegal immigrant.

Amnesty described the screening process as critically flawed. It cited the example of a young Christian who was screened out as an economic migrant despite facing a five-year jail term for "crimes against the state" in Vietnam.

The man, unidentified to protect confidentiality, had been a student in Czechoslovakia, where he was briefly jailed because of his involvement in the human-rights movement before being deported back to Vietnam, the Amnesty report said.

"On arrival he was arrested, ill-treated and tried for crimes against the state," the Amnesty report said.

"Before the resulting five-year sentence could be imposed, he managed to escape to Hong Kong, where the full screening process ruled that he was not a refugee, which meant he could be forced back to Vietnam," it added.

Amnesty said it was only emergency intervention by officials from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) that secured him refugee status.

Barnes defended screening saying: "The benefit of the doubt was given to Vietnamese claiming refugee status with the result that there are probably a great many more successful claims that would be warranted by a strict application of the UNHCR criteria."

Amnesty said international law required governments to ensure proper refugee determination procedures and protect asylum-seekers against ill-treatment.

"It is these international responsibilities," it said, "which both the Hong Kong and British governments have failed to meet."

Spies on trial in Shanghai

Agents for Taiwan

BEIJING, Jan 15, (AP) — A Shanghai court has begun criminal proceedings against five men charged with spying for Taiwan during the pro-democracy protests last spring.

Yesterday's Wen Hui Bao daily, seen in Beijing today said the five were employed by the secret service agency of Taiwan's Kuomintang (Nationalist Party) to gather intelligence on the pro-democracy movement in Shanghai.

It was the third report this month in the official press of action taken against reputed spies for Taiwan.

A Beijing court on Jan 4 sentenced three men to jail terms of 15, 15 and six years for stirring up anti-government unrest in Beijing last spring.

On Saturday it was reported that police in southwest China's Yunnan province had arrested a man allegedly hired by Taiwan's secret service who was disseminating material for the banned US-based Chinese Alliance for Democracy.

The Beijing three and the Shanghai five were among 13 alleged spies whose arrests were announced on state-run television last June 22.

The arrests appeared linked to the government's campaign to show that foreign subversives were behind the massive protests that swept the country in April through June and were put down in Beijing by military force.

The newspaper said two of the five in Shanghai, Qiu Lin and Zhou Yan, were recruited by Kuomintang intelligence agents in 1988, Qiu while in the Philippines and Zhou while in Japan.

It said Zhou returned to China in September 1988 and recruited the other three — Lu Zhongqing, Feng Jin and Cao Weiguo.

Reports last June said Qiu was a 30-year-old former journalist

| Final draw winners of the "Golden Eggs" Promotion of Kuwait United Poultry held on 13-1-1990. | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--|
| Prize | Winner Coupon No. | Contingency Coupon No. | |
| 1. Isuzu Car, Gemini LT Sedan, 1990 Model | 495428 | 477451 | |
| 2. Isuzu Car, Gemini LT Sedan, 1990 Model | 223951 | 369361 | |
| 3. Gold Egg, 18 Carats, 60 Grams | 263816 | 457578 | |
| 4. Gold Egg, 18 Carats, 60 Grams | 432433 | 451623 | |
| 5. Gold Egg, 18 Carats, 60 Grams | 424600 | 266164 | |
| 6. Gold Egg, 18 Carats, 60 Grams | 455999 | 522707 | |
| 7. Gold Egg, 18 Carats, 60 Grams | 489231 | 360287 | |
| 8. Gold Egg, 18 Carats, 60 Grams | 120925 | 33064 | |
| 9. Gold Egg, 18 Carats, 60 Grams | 43116 | 335913 | |
| 10. Gold Egg, 18 Carats, 60 Grams | 76192 | 378273 | |
| 11. Gold Egg, 18 Carats, 60 Grams | 340598 | 276817 | |
| 12. Gold Egg, 18 Carats, 60 Grams | 264372 | 189465 | |
| 13. Gold Egg, 18 Carats, 60 Grams | 7436 | 20210 | |
| 14. Gold Egg, 18 Carats, 60 Grams | 469106 | 448446 | |
| 15. Goldstar Refrigerator Model R3251 | 161841 | 76307 | |
| 16. Goldstar Refrigerator Model R3251 | 412417 | 200414 | |
| 17. Goldstar Television, 20" 7 Systems, Model CTT9988 | 150328 | 120195 | |
| 18. Goldstar Television, 20" 7 Systems, Model CTT9988 | 156825 | 4822 | |
| 19. Goldstar Television, 20" 7 Systems, Model CTT9988 | 440006 | 542361 | |
| 20. Goldstar Television, 20" 7 Systems, Model CTT9988 | 82379 | 535911 | |
| 21. Indesit Refrigerator Model W411 | 448615 | 80883 | |
| 22. Indesit Refrigerator Model W411 | 183320 | 84277 | |
| 23. Goldstar Refrigerator, Model GHV 1233 | 106577 | 203665 | |
| 24. Goldstar Video, Model GHV 1233 | 14574 | 48247 | |
| 25. Goldstar Video, Model GHV 1233 | 183689 | 213521 | |
| 26. Goldstar Video, 2 Systems, Model GHV 1233 | 454711 | 468914 | |

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Chinese consider taking flight

BEIJING, Jan 15, (AP) — Wang has a wife and baby, a secure government job and no particular interest in politics. Until recently, he never thought about leaving China.

But since June he has become obsessed with the idea, to the point that he has been hardly concentrate on his work. He and a friend spend hours debating the best way to leave. They think it's best to leave as a student and that the best place to go is Australia.

If he succeeds, he will leave behind his wife and child, probably never to return. "She understands," Wang said. "She knows I can't live here."

Uncalculated thousands of China's best-educated people, many of them young, have reached the same conclusion since June, when the Chinese Army opened fire on pro-democracy protesters in Beijing.

Their idealistic dreams of saving China shattered, many students now say they are only interested in saving themselves from political repression, cultural tedium and economic hardships of socialist China.

Study abroad was popular before June.

What has changed is that now virtually everyone with a college degree and many without one are talking about it, even those with little or no foreign language skills.

Schemes for getting overseas are getting wilder, too. An artist talked one week of seeking an invitation to exhibit his work abroad. The next week he proposed finding a foreign woman to marry.

"I can't paint in this environment," he said. The US embassy said the number of applications for Chinese government-sponsored study abroad has dropped. But the number of non-government students has jumped by one-third compared to the previous year, with 2,424 receiving visas in the fiscal year that ended Sept 30.

The number of Chinese going to visit relatives already studying in the United States more than tripled, to 321 in the last three months of 1989.

Student applications to go to Canada, another popular destination, topped 3,000 from June through December, up more than

50 per cent from the same period in 1988, the Canadian embassy said.

Many of those now trying to leave say they are not interested in politics, and many did not actively take part in the pro-democracy protests, that preceded the June crackdown. But they sympathised with the protesters' demands for a freer society and regard the deluge of political rhetoric since June as the last straw.

A college graduate acknowledged that many people seek riches abroad, but she said money is only one factor in a quality-of-life equation that includes less bureaucracy, more personal freedom and professional fulfillment.

Suggestions that China cannot reform or advance if its brightest youth go abroad rouse little interest. One repeat applicant at the US embassy, one of few Chinese in his field, shrugged and said, "We can't do anything here now."

The embassy tries to screen out anyone they suspect will not return to China.



Talks on ending apartheid

Former African National Congress (ANC) secretary-general Walter Sisulu and his wife Albertina arrive at Johannesburg's Jan Smuts airport shortly before leaving South Africa for Zambia for talks on ending apartheid with the exiled leaders of the outlawed ANC. (Reuters wirephoto)

Sisulu to hold talks in Zambia

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 15. (Reuters): Eight black nationalists, six released from jail only three months ago, left South Africa for Zambia today for talks on ending apartheid with exiled leaders of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC).

Former ANC secretary-general Walter Sisulu, 77, and his colleagues received a jubilant send-off at Jan Smuts airport from a cheering and chanting crowd of supporters, including Winnie Mandela, wife of Sisulu's jailed comrade Nelson Mandela.

"The whole world is waiting with bated breath for our discussions... about ending apartheid," Sisulu told reporters.

The elderly activists were accompanied by leading figures of the ANC's younger generation, who continued the fight against Pretoria's white minority rule during the quarter-century Sisulu spent behind bars.

It is their first visit to the movement's headquarters since last October when the six were unconditionally released from life jail terms for plotting to overthrow white rule.

In the Zambian capital, ANC leaders prepared a warm welcome for their comrades.

"Today is one of my greatest days in my 20 years in exile," said an ANC official waiting at Lusaka airport with Zambian government officials and diplomats.

ANC sources said the agenda for the week-long meeting would include Mandela's release, expected within weeks, the future leadership of the movement and the programme of apartheid reform launched by President F.W. de Klerk.

Masked men blast complex in Corsica

BASTIA, Corsica, Jan 15. (AP): Masked men bearing firearms evacuated the residents of a holiday complex yesterday and blew up about 60 vacation cabins, police said.

Investigators reported no injuries. The letters FNLC, for the Corsican National Liberation Front, were scratched into the hood of a car parked at the entrance of the complex.

The masked men entered Corsica's Forêt and Corsicana village, which caters to nudists, on the eastern side of the Mediterranean island about 8 a.m. (0700 GMT) yesterday, police said.

The approximately 60 masked men rounded up some 50 people from the cabins and beaches, bound their hands and held them at an empty restaurant closed for the winter, police said.

The detained people included West Germans, English, Belgians and Chileans, police said.

The bombers then tied explosives to bottles of gas and blew up about 60 of the 108 cabins at the camps at about noon (1100 GMT).

Mandela for free market

Policy reversal

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 15. (AP): Imprisoned nationalist leader Nelson Mandela favours retaining South Africa's free market economy after years of backing plans for a state-run economy, reports said today.

Several Johannesburg newspapers quoted leading black businessman Richard Maponya as saying Mandela told him he was "definitely inclined towards a free enterprise system" rather than nationalisation or state control of industries.

"The two men, who are close friends, met recently at Victor Verster Prison where Mandela is being held, but the reports did not say when the meeting took place."

Mandela in the past has supported an economic programme calling for the nationalisation of mines, banks and other key sectors of the economy as ways to advance majority rule.

The reports said Mandela now sees free market forces as the best way of providing for the needs of the nation's rapidly expanding population.

"The message Mandela wanted me to take away from Victor Verster was his belief that the economy is the backbone of any nation," Maponya was quoted as saying.

"He said he did not believe in nationalisation because it was clear such a policy ran counter to the need to keep the South African economy growing to provide jobs," Maponya said.

Mandela, the nation's most prominent black leader, is expected to be released soon as part of the government's moves to negotiate with the country's black majority.

Mandela is allowed to receive visitors such as Maponya and has held contacts with govern-

ment officials.

The African National Congress, the main black power group to which Mandela belongs, still supports nationalisation. A change in Mandela's position on the economy could lead to a serious division within the ANC.

Maponya said Mandela was concerned that blacks be able to take part in the economy to counter the growing problems of mass unemployment, poor housing and poverty.

"He was concerned as to whether black people were getting themselves geared up to take up opportunities as they arose," Maponya was quoted as saying.

"I told him of the training of quite a number of young entrepreneurs and he said this was a very good thing."

Meanwhile, seven formerly imprisoned veterans of the outlawed African National Congress planned to leave today for Zambia for talks with exiled ANC leaders about the prospects for opening negotiations with the South African government, an ANC spokesman said.

Following talks in Lusaka, the ANC officials are expected to go to Europe for a series of meetings in European capitals. The seven also are scheduled to meet Oliver Tambo, the ailing 72-year-old ANC president who suffered a stroke last August and was recently moved from a London clinic to a Stockholm, Sweden, hospital.

The meeting heralds another significant step toward negotiations between the minority government of President Frederik de Klerk and the leadership of the black majority on how to resolve the country's protracted racial conflict.

Offer of safe return to Sweden

Wallenberg refused

STOCKHOLM, Jan 15. (Reuters): Diplomat Raoul Wallenberg turned down a chance to return safely to Sweden only one week before he was captured by Soviet troops, a wartime colleague was quoted yesterday as saying.

Wallenberg said he could not leave Hungary until he had done everything in his power to save as many Jews as possible from deportation to Nazi death camps, diplomat Per Anger told the Evening Express newspaper.

Diary references to meetings with Adolf Eichmann and the large quantity of US dollars he possessed, may have convinced Soviet authorities that Wallenberg was a Nazi agent, Anger said.

Express published long extracts from Wallenberg's desk diary and his address book showing the Budapest telephone number of Eichmann, one of Adolf Hitler's chief aides in the campaign to exterminate Jews.

When Soviet troops entered Budapest at the beginning of 1945, everyone from the Swedish legation left the building to seek refuge elsewhere — except Wallenberg.

"He was so involved in the rescue of Jews he simply could not turn away," Anger, now a retired ambassador, told Express.

Anger said Wallenberg received large sums from the war refugee board in Washington and held more than \$1,000 when he was seized.

Suspected Pretoria couple commit suicide

PRETORIA, Jan 15. (AP): A man and a woman suspected of abducting several schoolgirls committed suicide today after a high-speed chase, police said.

The couple was pursued in their car by police officers who had placed their house in Pretoria under surveillance as part of an investigation into the Jan 11 abduction of a 16-year-old girl.

Police said the girl escaped over the weekend from the house, where she allegedly had been kept prisoner and sexually assaulted.

Police said investigation into the whereabouts of

six other missing teen-age girls would continue, but might be hampered by the deaths of the man and woman — Cornelius Van Rooyen, 52, and Johanna Haarhoff, 48.

They were found dead of gunshot wounds in their car after police had shot out the vehicle's tires during a chase through Pretoria.

According to witnesses, some of the girls who have disappeared in recent months were last seen entering a mini-bus driven by a blonde woman. Police said a mini-bus was found at the house in Pretoria.

China reduces US embassy vigilance

BEIJING, Jan 15. (AP): Chinese police reduced surveillance around the US embassy to its lowest level since June, an embassy spokesman said today prompting speculation of an accord on a Chinese dissident who took refuge inside.

However, embassy spokesman Sheridan W. Bell moved to quell such talk, saying the Chinese gave no reason for their move. "If a secret agreement has been reached, it's a secret to me," he said.

Astrophysicist Fang Lizhi and his wife fled to the embassy in June when China cracked down on pro-democracy protesters. Since then, their presence at the embassy has been a major irritant in US-China relations.

However, neither side has acknowledged even holding talks on the Fangs, for whom the Chinese have issued arrest warrants as "counter-revolutionaries." China said last week that the "only way out" for the couple was to plead guilty.

The Fang's presence has prompted heavy Chinese surveillance since June at the main embassy building and at the ambassador's residence several blocks away. The United States has not said in which compound the Fangs are living.

The surveillance peaked in early November, when dozens of uniformed and plainclothes police watched the compounds' gates, and their black Mercedes with dark windows and no license plates lined the blocks.

The number of police dropped gradually in November but reached a new low late last week, according to Bell. The main embassy building was guarded today by only five uniformed police with automatic pistols while three guarded the ambassador's residence.

Only one police car was sighted in the area — an unmarked Mercedes with two men inside that was parked on a sidewalk.

Romania treads a delicate course

BUCHAREST, Jan 15. (Reuters): Romania's revolutionary leaders, on a delicate course towards democracy after a week-end crisis, are preparing for a stream of Western visitors they hope will help rebuild the shattered economy.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher today meets provisional government leaders who took power after the overthrow of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu last month.

He will have talks with interim President Ion Iliescu, Prime Minister Petre Roman and other officials to find out how best West Germany can help Romania meet its most urgent needs.

Foreign Minister Segiu Celac told the European Economic Community's external affairs commissioner Frans Andriessen in Bucharest yesterday that Romania desperately needed food for its people and fodder to save its livestock.

Ceausescu wiped out a \$20-billion foreign debt over eight years by almost eliminating imports from hard-currency countries, pushing most of Romania's 23 million people to the brink of starvation.

Ruling National Salvation Front (NSF) leaders faced their first major crisis at the weekend trying to satisfy demands for political reform.

About 10,000 angry demonstrators besieged NSF headquarters in central Bucharest on Friday shouting "down with communism" and "death to the terrorists" — a reference to Ceausescu's hated secret police who killed several thousand pro-revolution protesters and troops.

In an attempt to placate the crowd, Iliescu announced the banning of the discredited Communist Party which ruled the lives of Romanians for four decades.

But he reversed the decision 24 hours later after coming under fire for acting too hastily and giving in to mob rule.

Iliescu appealed for patience and national unity, saying anarchy could lead only to dictatorship.

NSF spokesman Adrian Sirbu said yesterday public trials of leaders of the Ceausescu government and members of the Securitate secret police would open this week.

Romania's new vice-president Dumitru Mazilu said today he was taking legal action over press attacks linking him to the hated security police of executed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

Bucharest radio broadcast a statement by Mazilu after the leading daily Romania Libera (free Romania) published two harshly-worded articles over the weekend calling for his dismissal.

"Besides unjustified criticism I was the target of repeated calous

slanders."

"I want to exercise my right to start court proceedings against Romania Libera and all the individuals involved in this campaign," Mazilu's statement said.

His future in the ruling National Salvation Front appeared to be in jeopardy after the attacks but the front spokesman said today Mazilu's position was safe.

The front says Securitate fanatics killed up to 10,000 soldiers and civilian insurgents.

Increasingly active Romanian exiles in Switzerland demanded today the dismissal of Romania's ambassador on grounds he represented and backed the former regime of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

A 30-member committee set up by the some 2,000 exiles had previously engaged Swiss lawyer Moritz Leuenberger to get Switzerland to block gold and money reportedly hidden by Ceausescu in Swiss bank accounts.

Modrow appeals for end to strikes

Prices of children's clothing rise: rents may go up

EAST BERLIN, Jan 15. (AP): Premier Hans Modrow, bowing to opposition pressure, took part today in negotiations between his Communist Party and the opposition, as he appealed for an end to strikes in the troubled nation.

East Germans began paying higher prices for children's clothing and related articles, and the finance minister said apartment rents were also likely to be increased by an unspecified amount.

The communist premier initially had said he was rejecting opposition demands for an appearance at today's session of the talks, but faced criticism from pro-democracy groups over the weekend.

Modrow appealed for understanding calm and called on representatives of the 16 political parties and groups present to co-operate in solving the nation's troubles.

"Public life must not be disturbed by strikes," Modrow said during the session broadcast live on East German television.

In recent days, East Germany has been hit by politically motivated strikes in various parts of the country, including Erfurt and East Berlin. The strikes were aimed at pressuring the communists to give up their grip on power and to finally abolish the hated secret police.

He called for an end to such warning strikes to ensure that the country's economy functions "without disturbances and productively."

Modrow also pledged to take part in next week's session of the talks, countering opposition allegations he was not taking the negotiations seriously.

There have been doubts as to whether Modrow's coalition can survive until the democratic elections scheduled for May 6. Modrow already bowed to previous opposition pressure last week by scrapping plans to form a new secret police agency.

Markus Meckel, a leader of the influential Social Democratic Party, praised Modrow's decision to appear at the session.

Meckel said during his response at the talks that Modrow's statement provided the basis to "ensure the government's work and competence" until the elections.

Yesterday, several hundred thousand people turned out for ceremonies commemorating the 1919 murders of two heroes of the German left into a nationwide show of force.

For the first time, the ceremonies marking the deaths of Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht were not controlled by the Communist Party, leading to dozens of locally organised events.

In central East Berlin, a rally organised by the Social Democrats turned into an anti-communist protest. Banners accused the communists of lies and corruption.

In Magdeburg, a protest by tens of thousands of people included calls for the removal of communists from dominance. The state-run news agency ADN said. Demonstrators marched to the local party headquarters, where they slapped anti-communist leaflets on the door and hoisted a West German flag, ADN said.

Protests were also reported in Karl-Marx-Stadt and Suhl. Modrow also appealed to opposition leaders to help stem the daily flood of East Germans to the West, saying the new government could not work miracles within a few weeks.

East Germany's hated security police had more than 100,000 informers and employed thousands more people steaming open mail and tapping telephones across the country, a government said today.

Manfred Sauer, a representative of prime minister, said at talks between the opposition and government parties that the former ministry of state security's budget last year was 3.6 billion marks (\$2.1 billion).

Sauer was briefing the meeting on the ministry's successor organisation, the office for national security.

"These 109,000 unofficial informants are no longer being contacted and receive no orders. They are no longer active," he said.

Of the 85,000 full-time employees, 30,000 have already been made redundant or redeployed in other ministries or sectors. All others will be dismissed soon but about 12,500 will remain until the service is entirely broken up, Sauer said.

Ambitious regional Premier Oskar Lafontaine has surged ahead in the race to lead West Germany's opposition Social Democrats (SPD) into national elections against Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

East Germany's reform movement honoured fiery revolutionary Rosa Luxemburg yesterday, claiming back a popular heroine appropriated long ago by the hardline communist leadership.



East German Communist Party members carrying banners demonstrate in East Berlin. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Japan declares young people adults: A reported 1.88 million 20-year-olds officially became adults yesterday, Japan's national Coming-Of-Age holiday.

Women, dressed in beautiful pink and gold Japanese kimonos, and men in Western suits dotted the streets of Tokyo yesterday, recalling an old custom in which young people were granted new sets of adult clothes on reaching maturity.

But they were headed not for ancient temples to be confirmed as adults in religious or cultural rites. Their destination: local municipal offices where they took part in brief ceremonies commemorating Coming-Of-Age day, a national holiday in Japan. (AP)

Opposition fans anti-communism: A leading Yugoslav politician yesterday accused the country's flourishing opposition groups of whipping up anti-communist hysteria.

"I am very surprised and disappointed by the aggressive anti-communism manifesting itself as the political alternative," Milo Djukanovic, politburo secretary of the Montenegrin Communist Party, said in a newspaper interview.

"This is to such an extent irreconcilable with the programmes of these parties... that in some cases it is growing into real anti-communist hysteria," he told the daily Politika Ekspres. "I am downright afraid of such a lack of democracy." (Reuters)

40 injured in Bologna robbery: About 40 people were injured yesterday when armed robbers used an explosive device to blow open a Bologna Post Office strongroom, police said.

Police said a gang of five or six masked men brandishing pistols and shotguns stormed the Post Office early in the morning when dozens of elderly people were queuing to withdraw their pensions.

Eyewitnesses said the bandits fired over the heads of staff and customers and ordered everyone to lie down. (Reuters)

Britain to conduct Aids test: Britain began yesterday a nation-wide scheme of anonymous testing to improve estimates on the number of people infected by the Aids virus.

Department of Health officials said yesterday up to a quarter of a million people will have had blood samples screened for the virus by the end of the year. These include initially about 120,000 pregnant women at anti-natal clinics and 30,000 patients attending clinics for sexually-transmitted diseases, and a further 100,000 patients at general hospitals later in the year.

Leaflets will make it clear to patients that the scheme is not compulsory, and chief medical officer Sir Donald Acheson has assured patients that the identities of those who participate "will never be known and no possible harm can come to them from having the test." (Kuna)

Labour Party leads in poll: The British opposition Labour Party has increased its lead over the ruling Conservative Party to eight percentage points according to the latest opinion poll published yesterday.

The poll, conducted by Mori for the Times newspaper, gave Labour 48 per cent, the Conservatives 40 per cent, the Liberal Democrats four per cent, the Green Party four per cent and the Social Democratic Party two per cent. (Kuna)

Actor Gordon Jackson dies: Scottish actor Gordon Jackson, who won international stardom as the Butler Hudson in the television series "Upstairs, Downstairs", has died at the age of 66, his agent said yesterday.

Jackson, who appeared in more than 60 films, died on Sunday in a London hospital after a short illness. His wife, actress Rona Anderson, was at his bedside.

His major films included "Whiskey Galore", "Tunes of Glory", "The Great Escape" and "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie." (Reuters)

Talks open on Soviet troops cut in Prague

PRAGUE, Jan 15. (Reuters): Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union began talks today on Prague's demand for withdrawal of all 75,000 Soviet troops by the end of the year.

The official Czechoslovak news agency CTK said the talks were being led by deputy Foreign Ministers Ivan Abomov of the Soviet Union and Evzen Vacek of Czechoslovakia.

Soviet troops have been in Czechoslovakia since Warsaw Pact forces invaded in 1968 to end the short-lived liberal reform era of Alexander Dubcek.

The fact that Moscow originally said the intervention was at the request of Czechoslovakia itself is likely to give weight to the withdrawal demand by the new reformist government in Prague, Western analysts said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Lubos Dubrovsky said earlier the teams at the talks were divided into political and expert sections. There was no fixed deadline but the discussions were likely to last about three days.



Capitalist help

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu of Japan said his government would consider providing credit guarantees worth up to \$850 million to aid Poland's transition to a market economy.

Japan and Poland also signed a previously announced agreement to provide a \$150-million credit to a stabilisation fund to back the Polish currency during the transition of the zloty to a convertible currency.

Japan also pledged to provide Poland with \$25 million in food aid as well as \$15 million that will be used to train Polish managers. The signing ceremonies came on the first day of Kaifu's two-day visit, which was highlighted by a meeting and dinner with Solidarity leader Lech Walesa. Kaifu was met at Warsaw's Okęcie airport by Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki and other leading members of the Solidarity-dominated cabinet. Picture shows Kaifu (left) shares a joke with Walesa in Warsaw. (Reuters wirephoto)

مكذوب الأحدث

MIDEAST

Iraq slams US for sanctions on Libya

BAGHDAD, Jan 15, (AP): Iraq denounced US President George Bush's decision to renew economic sanctions against Libya as a "wrong and harmful attempt to impose superpower will on a less powerful country."

Al Thawra, mouthpiece of the ruling Baath Socialist Party, said the US move should be totally rejected because it was using international economic relations for political purposes.

"This is a form of interference in the internal affairs of other states and an attempt to infringe their national sovereignty," Al Thawra said in a front-page editorial.

On Jan 4, Bush ordered a one-year extension to US economic sanctions imposed on Libya in 1986 for supporting international terrorism.

He told Congress that the crisis between the United States and Col. Muammar Khaddafi's regime has not yet been resolved.

He claimed Tripoli still supported terrorism and poses "an extraordinary threat" to US security and interests.

Reports in the Arab world indicate that Khaddafi has sent emissaries to Arab leaders asking them to use their influence with Bush to lift the sanctions.

A Libyan envoy, armed forces commander Brig. Abu Baker Yunis, visited Baghdad earlier this month and met President Saddam Hussein.

Iraqi officials declined comment on whether Baghdad had asked the United States to lift the sanctions or whether they were mediating between Tripoli and Washington.

Al Thawra warned that economic sanctions could increase tension and jeopardise international security.

"The United States should be the first to realise the consequences of such an act and refrain from punishing states which have different views and stop checking other countries' policies," the daily said.

Iraq calls for Arab solidarity and rejects superpower interference in the Arabs' internal affairs, it noted.

In Khartoum, Sudan, the government today also deplored the renewal of US economic sanctions against Libya.

The Foreign Ministry called on Bush to reconsider the decision, saying it was "a terrible blow to expectations and high hopes pinned on the prevailing international spirit of détente."

Moscow moves to dump Mideast

Soviets withdraw advisers from Syria

NICOSIA, Jan 15, (AP): Syrian and Soviet military leaders have agreed on the withdrawal from Syria of "a number" of Soviet military instructors, an informed Syrian source said today.

The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the withdrawal was agreed during a visit by Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlass to Moscow last month.

He said Tlass negotiated the issue with members of the Soviet Union's Supreme Military Council.

The source denied press reports in Israel that the withdrawal of Soviet personnel was in the thousands.

He declined to comment on a report in a Kuwaiti newspaper that the number of Soviet military advisers had already dropped from 2,000 to just over 1,000.

"The agreement was that a number of Soviet military trainers would be withdrawn," the source said without giving a figure.

The total number of Soviet citizens living in Syria, including civilian and military advisers, wives, children and support personnel, is about 5,000, the source said.

The 1989-90 military balance, an annual survey of global military strengths published by the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies, puts the number of Soviet military personnel in Syria last year at 2,000.

That was down from the figure of 4,000 for 1986, 1987 and 1988. The 1985 figure was 2,500.

Last November, the Washington post quoted the Soviet Ambassador in Damascus, Alexander Zotov, as saying that the Soviet Union was trying to persuade Syria to abandon its quest for strategic military parity with Israel.

Zotov was quoted as saying the "new realities" in the Soviet Union meant Moscow would consider "the limits of our capabilities" in meeting Syria's future military needs.

He was taken to be referring to Mikhail Gorbachev's change of emphasis to concentrate on solving his country's internal problems.

After publication of the report, Zotov gave a news conference saying Syria has the right to obtain whatever weapons it feels it needs. He denied that the Soviet Union was putting pressure on Damascus.

Syrian officials and Zotov were quoted as saying relations between Syria and the Soviet Union, its main arms supplier, remained excellent.

Syrian President Hafez Assad has often stated his belief that to achieve a just peace in the Middle East, Syria must achieve military equality with Israel so that it can negotiate from a position of strength.

The Soviets have supplied Syria with combat jets, tanks and a missile capability which includes a powerful air defence.

Israel 'will accept deportees in talks'

KUWAIT, Jan 15, (Agencies): Israel would accept participation of Jerusalem's Arabs and two Palestinian deportees in a proposed Israeli-Palestinian dialogue if Washington agreed to halt its own dialogue with the PLO, a Kuwaiti newspaper reported today.

The newspaper, quoting unidentified US State Department sources, said Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, now visiting in the US, had relayed the Israeli condition to President George Bush's administration.

Israel has earlier been adamant in its opposition to the participation in the dialogue of Palestinians expelled from the occupied territories and Arabs of East Jerusalem considered by Israel as naturalized citizens.

Israel would now agree to the participation of two deportees and East Jerusalem's Arabs if Washington officially announced that its dialogue with the PLO was stopped.



Police and Israeli settlers evacuate Haili Avni, a female Israeli soldier after she was stabbed by assailants inside the walled Old City. (Reuters wirephoto)

Israeli woman soldier stabbed

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 15, (Agencies): Israelis from more than 50 debt-ridden collective farms went on strike and blocked roads with burning tires today to demand government aid.

In Jerusalem, an Arab assailant stabbed a young Israeli woman soldier six times in the back and chest, wounding her moderately, police said.

Police spokesman Uri Sandori said 60 suspects were detained for questioning in the incident in Jerusalem's old, walled city.

He said the victim, who lived in the Tel Aviv area, was walking alone at the time she was attacked.

Witnesses said she was wearing an olive drab army-issue snow suit, and Israeli Radin said police were investigating whether she was stabbed with a knife or a screwdriver found near the site.

Attacks in Jerusalem have been rare in the 25-month Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Last Sept 20, a Jewish seminary student was stabbed in the same area of the old city.

In northern Israel, scores of angry farmers used tires and rocks to close a main road near the Lebanon border, Israeli Radin reported.

Police used force to disperse the crowd, and several protesters were arrested, the radio said.

The strike was triggered by mounting farmers' debts and to commemorate the death of a farmer who committed suicide last week because of his debts.

A government-backed bail out programme recently was put in place to resolve the financial problems of kibbutz, which are collective farms. But the debts of other farming collectives, have not been resolved.

Two border policemen were suspended yesterday and ordered to stand trial for fatally shooting a Palestinian teen-ager without firing warning shots, then allegedly trying to cover up the error.

They were accused of giving a false account of the incident in Bethlehem after military officers viewed ABC-TV videotape of the shooting, said an army spokesman who insisted on anonymity.

Also yesterday, a Palestinian man died of gunshot wounds suffered in a clash between masked Arabs and Israeli soldiers three weeks ago in the Gaza Strip, the army said.

The victim was identified as Abdulhadi Al-Rikawi, 42, of Rafah refugee camp. Two other Palestinians were killed in the clash.

After Al-Rikawi's funeral, Palestinians blocked roads with stone barricades and burned tires, Arab reports said.

The two border policemen, members of a paramilitary unit that works with army troops in the territories, were suspended by Maj. Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai, head of the army's central command, and Inspector Gen. Meshulam Amit, the border police commander.

The victim, 18-year-old Fadi Zabakhi of Bethlehem, was shot in the head during a demonstration Dec 28 and died Jan 7. His funeral coincided with the celebration of Christmas by Orthodox Christians, and the event was turned into a rally by Muslim and Christian activists.

The army initially said Zabakhi and fellow Palestinians carried axes and ignored shouted orders to halt as well as warning shots. Troops are required to shoot a warning and fire in the air before aiming at a suspect's legs.

Occupied areas for Soviet Jews: Shamir

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 15, (AP): Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said today that Israel needs to retain the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, the focal point of the Middle East conflict, to settle an influx of Jews from the Soviet Union.

His suggestion that some of the estimated 300,000 Soviet Jews expected to move here following the tightening of US visa rules be settled in the occupied lands sparked anew the country's debate over trading land for peace.

"For a large immigration we need the land of Israel, a large and strong Israel," Shamir said. "We will need a lot of place to absorb everybody."

The statement, made last night before a group of old-timers from Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc in Tel Aviv, was broadcast today on Israeli radio.

Shamir came under immediate attack from the left-leaning Labour Party, his partner in the coalition government which advocates trading some of the occupied land for peace.

"I do believe that a great Israel is an Israel that lives in peace, not ... in conflict," said Finance Minister Shimon Peres, leader of Labour Party. "A great immigration needs a great Israel, and to have a great immigration we need an Israel that has the greatness of peace."

Calls for settling Soviet immigrants in the occupied territories already has raised tensions with foreign funders and the US administration, which has repeatedly said that Jewish settlements in the occupied lands are an obstacle to peace.

Israeli officials say they need three billion US dollars to absorb 100,000 immigrants over the next three to five years.

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Israeli officials say they need three billion US dollars to absorb 100,000 immigrants over the next three to five years.

Baker has urged the Egyptian and Israeli foreign ministers to meet him for preparatory talks in Washington, but it was not clear if Maguid would meet his Israeli counterpart, Moshe Arens.

Israel has so far failed to respond formally to Baker's invitation. In Los Angeles Rabin described yesterday Palestinian-Israeli dialogue as an essential step towards a peace settlement.

Rabin was on his way to see Baker but refused to say what he planned to discuss with him.

Israeli dialogue as an essential step towards a peace settlement.

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MIDEAST BRIEFS

Seoul, Algeria ties: South Korea set up full diplomatic ties with Algeria on Monday, the Foreign Ministry in Seoul announced.

An agreement to exchange ambassadors was signed in New York by South Korea's Ambassador to the United Nations, Park Sang-Yong, and his Algerian counterpart, Hocine Djoudi, the ministry said in a statement. (Reuters)

Ankara smog closes schools: Smog gripped the Turkish capital on Monday. Schools closed, flights were disrupted and industries contributing to the pollution were ordered to reduce operations.

City health authorities ordered schools closed. Ankara Governor Saffet Arslan Beduk gave public workers with children at day-care nurseries a day off to keep them at home. (Reuters)

Soviet minister to visit Iran: Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said on Sunday a Soviet deputy foreign minister would visit Tehran soon to discuss Moscow's plans to mediate in peace talks with Iraq.

"After viewing the plan we will announce our final opinion," Tehran radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, quoted Velayati as saying. He did not name the Soviet minister making the visit. (Reuters)

Sudanese rebels capture: Sudanese rebels said on Monday they had captured the southern town of Kaya from government forces, the second Garrison to fall into their hands in just over a week. (Reuters)

Badran denies: Jordan's Prime Minister Mudhar Badran has denied his government's intention to dismantle the Jordanian Ministry of Information.

Badran's remarks came following a meeting yesterday with heads and members of the Jordanian journalists' union. (Kuna)

Morocco crushes extremists: Moroccan authorities have ordered the dissolution of the country's main Islamic fundamentalist movement and arrested most of its leaders, spokesman for the group said yesterday.

They said six leading members of the bureau of the Adl Wa Al-Ihsane fundamentalists movement were arrested in Sale near Rabat on Saturday.

Dozens of other Muslim militants were taken into custody in various parts of the country during the past week, including a group of seven in the farming town of Sidi Yahia north of Rabat.

The leader of the movement, Abd Assalam Yassine, has been under house arrest at his home.

Students ransack police station: Students ransacked a campus police station in the central Tunisian town of Kairouan on Saturday, the Interior Ministry reported on Monday.

It said the students broke windows, destroyed documents and set fire to office furniture. Some of the students were arrested and would be charged. (Reuters)

Weizman wrong on Soviet ties: Israeli Foreign Ministry sources said on Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legations. (Reuters)

Foot-and-mouth kills: An outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Tunisia has killed some 50,000 lambs since November but the disease is now under control, an Agriculture Ministry spokesman said on Monday.

The outbreak cost Tunisia about 2.5 million dinars (\$2.8 million), including one million dinars (\$1.1 million) spent on vaccines imported from France, he said. (Reuters)

Egypt's emergency laws stay: Egypt's newly-appointed interior minister on Monday ruled out an early end to emergency powers in force for the past eight years and which allow detainees to be held for a month at a time without trial. (Reuters)

Wali leaves for Tripoli: Egyptian agriculture and land reform Minister Youssef Wali Monday leaves Cairo for Tripoli to attend Arab agriculture ministers' conference due to convene in Libya January 16-18.

Wali, who is also deputy premier, said in a statement in Cairo last night that the conference will be an opportunity to hold bilateral discussions with Arab agriculture ministers to develop relations in this field. (Kuna)

Contaminated food Restaurants closed

BAGHDAD, Jan 15, (AP): Authorities have closed down four restaurants in one of Baghdad's major hotels because contaminated food has been served there, the official Iraqi news agency reported yesterday.

INA said the Babylon-Oberoi Hotel will be fined 300 dinars (\$1,500) for each restaurant after laboratory tests found that food was contaminated with salmonella and other bacteria.

It said health authorities investigated after several people suffered food poisoning at a New Year's day party.

INA quoted health officials as saying samples of meat, dairy products, vegetables and water were found to be contaminated.

A hotel source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told the Associated Press that the allegations were false and that the restaurants were still open.

Decision on Turks visa: Interior Minister Franz Loeschak has said the cabinet will probably deal with the question of visas for Turkish citizens on Tuesday.

Foreign Minister Alois Mock, speaking in western Austria, said that a decision on visas for Turks would be made within the next two weeks. (Kuna)

Warned of Jewish influx: An Arab league meeting on Palestinians in exile opened in Tunis on Monday with a warning that Israel was planning to settle hundreds of thousands of east European Jews in the occupied territories.

Mohammed Al Farra, the league's assistant secretary general for Palestinian affairs, told the meeting of Arab officials that Israel had set aside hundreds of millions of dollars for the new immigrants, mostly from the Soviet Union. (Reuters)

Katyusha rockets hit north Israel

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 15, (AP): Several Soviet-designed Katyusha rockets fired from South Lebanon landed in northern Israel before dawn today, causing no injuries or damage, the army said.

The army said the rockets landed in the Galilee "peninsula" that protrudes into Lebanon.

The last reported rocket attack from Lebanon was Nov 9.

Israel radio said the rockets were fired from north of Israel's self-declared "security zone."

A major argument in providing Israel with \$1.8 billion a year in military aid has been its value as a strategic ally, one that could pre-position equipment, supply the US Sixth Fleet and be counted on in a showdown.

"There is no longer a common adversary," said Heller, suggesting aid cuts could ultimately result.

More conservative analysts disagree. They suggest Israel could become an even greater asset if the United States is forced to close down bases in Europe but wants to retain the ability to defend its interests against the whims of governments like those of Moammar Khaddafi in Libya and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

"Expansionist powers in the region could threaten the free flow of oil and maritime trade routes. These are constant American interests that will have to be defended even if no Soviet threat is perceived," said Dore Gold, also of the Jaffee Centre.

One sign of continuing US reliance came last week when US Assistant Secretary of Defence Paul Wolfowitz expressed interest in having access to bases in Israel, according to sources who demanded they not be identified.

Mubarak meets Fritz

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (right) meets Paul Fritz, the US assistant Secretary of Defence, in Cairo. (Reuters wirephoto)

Israel, East Germany to discuss ties

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 15, (AP): Israeli and East German officials are to meet in the next few days to discuss establishing diplomatic relations, an Israeli newspaper and army radio said today.

The meeting comes at the request of East Germany, which asked that the talks be held in a Western European capital. The Hebrew daily Maariv said. It did not give the proposed site for the talks.

Maariv said the meeting would be devoted to "all the controversial issues that prevent the establishment of diplomatic ties" between Israel and East Germany.

Officials at the Israeli Foreign Ministry said they were checking the report but had no immediate comment.

Army radio said the ministry was maintaining silence because of the sensitivity of the issue and East Germany's request for secrecy.

Israel never had relations with East Germany, but senior Israeli officials say diplomatic ties could be created if East Germany drops its refusal to accept moral responsibility for the Holocaust, in which six million Jews were murdered by the Nazis in World War II.

In recent months, other Eastern European countries have approached the Jewish state to renew ties cut in 1967 following the Middle East war of that year.

Hungary was first to renew ties in September 1989, and Poland and Czechoslovakia are expected to follow this spring. The Soviet Union reportedly plans to upgrade its low-level ties with Israel. Romania never severed ties.

Meanwhile, the Transport Ministry announced today that Israel's National El Al airline and Czechoslovakia's CTI airline have reached an agreement on direct flights between the two countries. The flights will begin next summer, it said.

It said the agreement "added another important target for El Al in Eastern Europe" and was expected to boost tourism to Israel.

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Israel worries as its value as a strategic ally to US being questioned

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 15, (AP): As Soviet tensions ease, Israel's value as a strategic ally is being questioned, and Israeli officials are concerned this could lead to cuts in military aid.

Mark Heller, a senior analyst at Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, said the Soviets were likely to be less supportive of radical Arab governments and no longer viewed as a source of instability.

"As the perceived Soviet threat to the Middle East declines, so may the strategic value of Israel in the eyes of American policymakers," he said.

A major argument in providing Israel with \$1.8 billion a year in military aid has been its value as a strategic ally, one that could pre-position equipment, supply the US Sixth Fleet and be counted on in a showdown.

"There is no longer a common adversary," said Heller, suggesting aid cuts could ultimately result.

More conservative analysts disagree. They suggest Israel could become an even greater asset if the United States is forced to close down bases in Europe but wants to retain the ability to defend its interests against the whims of governments like those of Moammar Khaddafi in Libya and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

"Expansionist powers in the region could threaten the free flow of oil and maritime trade routes. These are constant American interests that will have to be defended even if no Soviet threat is perceived," said Dore Gold, also of the Jaffee Centre.

One sign of continuing US reliance came last week when US Assistant Secretary of Defence Paul Wolfowitz expressed interest in having access to bases in Israel, according to sources who demanded they not be identified.

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Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who is in Washington this week for talks with US officials on future military aid, said one basic element has changed. He said the superpowers no longer fear a Middle East war would grow into a US-Soviet confrontation as happened during the 1973 Mideast war.

The Soviet Union, the main military supplier to Arab states, threatened to introduce troops to bolster the Arab side during the 1973 war, and then-US President Richard Nixon put American troops on nuclear alert.

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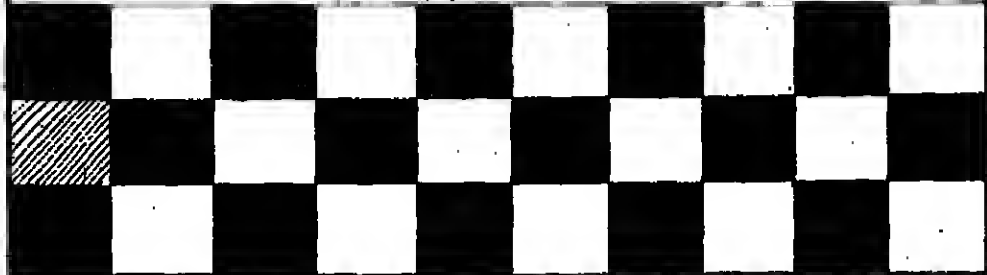
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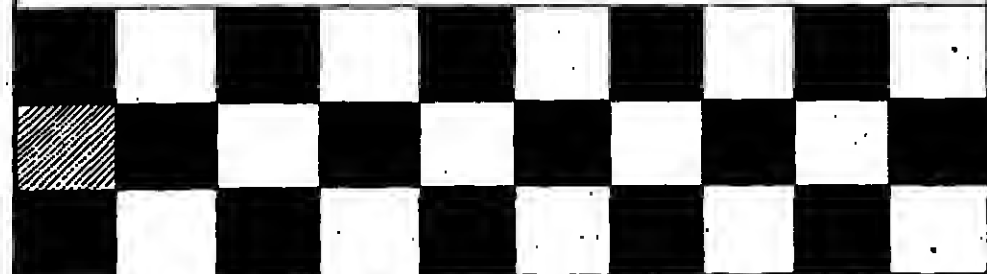
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Free industrial zone possible

No obligation for expats to find a Kuwaiti partner: study

A FREE industrial zone in Kuwait is possible according to a study published recently by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The study underlined the fact that all elements to the national economy at a time when Kuwait is striving hard to diversify its income sources and develop a strong economic system, the study said.

The project, if undertaken, will reflect positively on the national economy at a time when Kuwait is striving hard to diversify its income sources and develop a strong economic system, the study said. Reviewing the privileges offered by Kuwaiti laws to support the development of local industries as compared to those offered by the government of a neighbouring country, the study said that local industries were exempted from taxation.

The study said that land-plots were to be sold at 200 fils per square metre and cus-

tom duties were waived on machines, equipment, production necessities and spare parts to be used in the proposed free industrial zone.

The study further underscored the government's willingness to partly bear the cost of studies conducted to establish economic feasibility of industrial projects. The government offers credit facilities through the Industrial Bank of Kuwait along with the needed custom protection provided that wherever applicable, materials and equipment be purchased from national products.

The study said that the industrial law in Kuwait stipulates that 51 per cent of the shares of the industrial installations must be held by the Kuwaiti partner. No such stipulation will be enforced within the framework of the free industrial zone. Expatriates will have no obligation to find a Kuwaiti partner or a local sponsor and would be free to own the project indepen-

ently. This is contrary to the laws enforced in some countries in the region where a citizen must be a partner, and also a specified percentage of citizens must be employed on the project.

The study concluded that the privileges offered by the government of Kuwait to promote local industries facilitated the encouragement of investment enterprises.

The need to establish a base for advanced technology, promote and guide scientific research to meet national development requirements is strongly stressed in a recent study published by the Planning Ministry.

The study pointed that the regular contact and continuous co-operation with all science-oriented establishments and specialised institutes in the advanced countries is another prerequisite for improving the level of Kuwaiti manpower skills.

It added that administrative develop-

ment formed an essential part of the national development strategy, which relied heavily on highly-qualified technical, financial, administrative and professional personnel. Optimum and rational use of manpower cadre could be guaranteed to increase productivity, the study added.

The study also said that the need to develop creativity in scientific, technical and cultural spheres was no less important. Additionally, efforts should be exerted to upgrade the performance of public services, rationalise spending, develop economic resources, diversify the production base and promote the country's financial ability to better fund its various economic projects.

The study also underlined the profitability of increasing the involvement of public sector and exploitation of foreign relations to better serve the country's investments abroad.

KSC to host meeting

KUWAIT hosts next month a meeting for the executive committee of the International Movement of Scientific and Technological Activities which will bring together representatives from international scientific organisations.

The weeklong gathering which opens on Feb 26 is the first of its type in the Middle East and will be held under the aegis of His Highness Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah.

The Kuwait Science Club which is hosting the meeting will employ the event to highlight scientific advancement in Kuwait and the Arab Gulf region, according to the club's deputy chairman Adnan Youssef Al Mir, himself a member of the international movement's executive committee.

The meeting will review the scientific events to be organised this year in the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and France, and the Kuwaiti Minister of Education, Al-Mir told Kuna in a statement.

New US envoy to Saudi Arabia

RIYADH, Jan 15, (AP) The new US ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Charles W. Freeman Jr., yesterday presented his credentials to King Fahd. It was officially announced.

Washington has been without an ambassador to the kingdom, a close ally of the United States, since Walter L. Cutter left in March 1989.

Cutter had accepted the Riyadh posting six months earlier, his second in the kingdom, on the understanding that it was only for a brief period to fill in after the sudden departure of Hume Horan.

Horan had left at the Saudis' request after he complained about the kingdom's purchase of Chinese ballistic missiles which the Riyadh government regarded as an internal affair.

Freeman, named a few months after President George Bush took office, is skilled in Chinese affairs.

He is a career diplomat who served as deputy chief of mission in China and Thailand between 1981 and 1986.

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Focus on housing, pollution: Rifai

Contract to review Kuwait master plan

The municipal council has signed a contract with consultants to study the Master plan of Kuwait, Mohammed Al Rifai, Minister of State for Municipal Affairs said and added that the municipality used to review the master plan every five years.

The official said that this review will be the fourth such exercise, as the first master plan for Kuwait was formulated in 1952 by a foreign company. The plan was previously reviewed on three different occasions in the seventies and will be re-studied in 1995/96.

Rifai said that the authorities will focus on a number of new concerns during the 1990s such as preserving the environment, and the housing problem. Further, the municipality will work to reduce the pollution in the air, land and sea.

Contracts worth KD12 million have been signed with various cleaning companies. These are private specialised companies who will be responsible for keeping the country clean, Rifai said.

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Kuwait, India sign accord

KUWAIT and India yesterday signed an agreement dealing with co-operation in the cultural, scientific, educational, information and sport fields for the period 1990-1992, it was officially announced.

Secretary-General of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, Dr Farouk Al Omar and Indian Ambassador to Kuwait, Arun K. Budhiraja signed the agreement on behalf of their respective countries.

In a statement to Kuna, Dr Al Omar said the agreement would increase opportunities of co-operation between the two countries in these fields, noting that the three-year agreement deals with the exchange of selective cultural works as well as granting scholarships by both governments in addition to the exchange of radio and television programmes and folklore shows.

He added the agreement also stipulates the exchange of expertise and joint scientific researches as well as holding joint sports events.

For his part, the Indian diplomat expressed pleasure over the signing of the agreement, noting that it will contribute to the existing co-operation between India and Kuwait.

He also stressed the importance of the information side of the agreement, noting this will greatly contribute to bringing peoples of both countries closer to each other.

Benazir note to King Fahd

RIYADH, Jan 15, (Kuna): King Fahd Bin Abdul Azz of Saudi Arabia yesterday received a message from Mrs Benazir Bhutto, the Pakistani Prime Minister, the Saudi Press Agency reported.

The message was delivered by Benazir's special envoy Nasir Ahmad Sheikh who was received by the Saudi monarch at Al Yamama palace.

The royal audience was attended by Prince Saud Al Faisal, the Foreign Minister and the Pakistani Ambassador to the kingdom, Mohammed Wali Ullah Khan.

Satisfaction over health services

Hamadi denies low standard

THE Director of Al Ahmadi Health Area, Dr Abdullah Al Hamadi has described the level of health services at the area as "good", but commented that there are some obstacles that prevent extending better services such as population increase, shortage in physicians, technicians and beds in some departments of the hospital.

In an interview with a local daily, Hamadi said that developing health services should coincide with enhancing health awareness among the public in addition to providing refresher courses for physicians and other medical staff.

The official called for establishing health centres at new residential areas and the application of the family medical system at all health centres in addition to the application of the health registration system. He denied as baseless reports that the health services at the area were below standard and added that the area's health administration showed no leniency to those who failed to perform their duties according to standards.

Replying to a question, the official said that the closing of the Health Centre after 12:00 pm was a sound decision that had been adopted after a comprehensive study which recommended the timing to ease pressure at the hospitals.

Meanwhile, the official described attacks by some patients against physicians as uncivilized, but added that this phenomenon was limited and hoped it would disappear in the near future.

The official said that the level of the doctors in Kuwait is good and all doctors are subject to intensive interviews prior to being appointed. In this respect, he said that the Ministry of Public Health does not differentiate among health areas, hence the level of health in the Al Ahmadi area is identical to those in other areas.

The Al Ahmadi Health Area is the first area in the country to introduce the specialised clinic system, the official said and added that the area has distinguished clinics in different specialisations.

Famed Soviet eye surgeon coming again

FAMED Soviet eye surgeon, Svyatoslav Fyodorov, the man behind the floating eye hospital now berthed at Jebel Ali, near Dubai is to make a return visit to the Middle East, this week.

The 62-year-old head of the USSR's Research and Technological Complex of Eye Microsurgery is due to arrive in Dubai on Wednesday (Jan 17) for a week-long stay in the Middle East which will include visits to Oman and Qatar.

Professor Fyodorov is coming to review the progress of the Floks floating eye hospital which arrived in Jebel Ali last October for a stay of six months.

A former car carrier ship, the Petr Permy, was converted into a hospital ship last year at a cost of \$12.75 million. It is equipped with a fully computerised diagnostic clinic and multi-station operating theatre.

Since its arrival, surgeons on board have carried out more than 1,400 operations including three keratocollagenation, vaser-reconstruction and negative lens implantation — only previously carried out in Moscow.

Jebel Ali was chosen as the Petr Permy's first operational port of call following an unprecedented demand for Soviet eye treatment from Middle East patients. Over the past three months it has played host to eminent international surgeons.



Kupco final draw

Kuwait United Poultry Company (Kupco) held the final draw for the 'Golden Eggs Promotion' at the Kuwait Regency Palace on Jan 13, in the presence of representatives from the Ministries of Interior and Commerce & Industry.

The event started with an introduction by Mahmoud Nasser Al Nasser, the acting general manager, who thanked the attendees for their participation. Twenty-six prizes were offered including cars, 14 cars, solid gold eggs, TV and video sets, refrigerators and washing machines.

In addition, a spontaneous draw was held for attendees where Nasser offered 20 extra gifts.

KUWAIT ... GULF

Premier Cairo trip far-reaching

Buajian sees change of heart

A RANKING Kuwaiti diplomat has affirmed that the recently concluded visit by H.H. the Crown Prince and Premier to Cairo was fruitful on all levels, be that on the Arab or international front.

In an interview with a local daily published yesterday, Abdel Hamid Al Buajian, director of the Arab World Department at the Foreign Ministry said that the Kuwaiti and Egyptian sides expressed identical views towards many issues of mutual interest.

On his outlook to 1990, Al Buajian said that this year will observe a change of heart on the part of the Europeans towards key Arab issues from the past when Europeans were taking Arabs for granted.

He attributed this change to Arab solidarity which manifested best during the latest Arab summit, held last May in Casablanca, which Al Buajian described as the most important ever.

The ranking diplomat also lauded the resolutions and the session of the Palestine National

Council in Algiers and the Palestinian uprising inside the occupied territories, which erupted nearly 25 months ago.

Internationally, Al Buajian urged Arabs to benefit from the ongoing changes in Eastern Europe and also prepare themselves starting now for the awaited unified Western Europe in 1992.

He said that the changes in East European countries were the direct result of social and economic difficulties suffered by the peoples of these states, citing the restrictions governing the freedom of travel in this part of the world as an example.

He predicted that Western Europe might dispense with a large number of Arab workers, if its markets are flooded with East European labourers, calling for the preparation of a study to remedy this possible issue.

Al Buajian, a known authority on Lebanese affairs, affirmed that only the Lebanese people themselves can resolve their problems, urging them to comply with Taif accord, lay down their guns and open a dialogue.

Joint action against Israeli plan

DOHA, Jan 15, (Kuna): Dr Alawi Darwish Kayyal, the Saudi minister of posts, telegraphs and telephones has said the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, under the leadership of King Fahd Bin Abdulaziz, is keen to see a unified Arab action to face the dangers posed by the Israeli satellite.

Dr Kayyal told the Qatari News Agency, QNA, last night that the matter is under consideration by the Arab space communication corporation, ArabSat, which will undertake the proper measures.

He said the eight-member committee, assigned by ArabSat's general assembly, will meet in Muscat tomorrow to

review matters pertaining to the third generation of Arab satellites as a vital project.

The Saudi PTT minister said the third ArabSat should be launched within two years before the expiry date of the current two satellites now in orbit.

Dr Kayyal said it was preferred now that ArabSat corporation should remain as it is despite the presence of an idea to make the corporation a company in which private sector takes share.

Dr Kayyal welcomed the return of Egypt to the membership of ArabSat and expressed hope that the huge Egyptian technical and administrative potentialities could contribute to the success of the co-operation.



Media praised for uprising coverage

Jaber lauds unity bids

AMMAN, Jan 15, (Kuna): Kuwait's Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah has affirmed that the Arab media has so far given the extensive coverage the two-year-old Palestinian uprising deserves, thorough winning over more international support for the Intifada and unmasking the brutal practices of the Israeli authorities against Palestinians.

In an interview with Jordanian daily Al Dustoor, published today, Sheikh Jaber stressed that Arabs must attach great importance to future planning to catch up with the latest international developments, so they do not find themselves in "a real fix."

On the current drives towards rebuilding Arab solidarity, the Kuwaiti minister said that all Arab countries must put this goal at the top of their list of political priorities.

In the same respect, Sheikh Jaber expressed his country's happiness and support at the latest Syrian-Egyptian contacts, and said that Kuwait is all for such similar drives.

On the outcome of the recently-concluded GCC summit towards resolving the Iraq-Iran conflict, he said that all Gulf leaders with no exception exerted many efforts to bring the conflict to an end, but affirmed however that "the conflict will not be resolved without the mutual agreement of the two parties concerned and God willing they're heading towards a solution."

Sheikh Jaber also expressed satisfaction at the present status of the Gulf media, saying that Gulf states have joined efforts to confront all hostile media campaigns aimed at smearing the reputation of Arab Gulf states.

On the preparations taken by the Kuwaiti media to confront European satellite transmissions, he said that he had raised this issue at the GCC information ministers meeting in Bahrain recently and noted that a method was originated to control and censor any cable transmission that includes moral corruption, or false propaganda.

Sheikh Sabah to chair top-level meeting

Long-term planning

DEPUTY Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad will next Saturday preside over the meeting of the ministerial committee on the upcoming development plan.

Planning undersecretary and the plan's co-ordinator general Abdel Hadi Mohamed Al Awadi yesterday told reporters that the meeting would review development plans under construction or new ones that would be implemented during the forthcoming plan for (90/1991-94/1995).

He said a committee set up under instructions by Sheikh Sabah had already reviewed the proposed projects with all government quarters, where they specified projects to be implemented according to their priorities.

Awadi said proposals for the long-term plan covering the period from 1990 to the year 2015 would also be discussed at Saturday's meeting. He said the plan was worked out by the Ministry of Planning in collaboration with Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) in line with the country's long-term development strategy.

He said the ministry had finalised the fourth annual report on the current development plan. The Ministry of Planning (MOP) has finalised a draft of a long-term development project extending from 1990 through 2015, intended to attain high productivity standards, Seyassah learnt yesterday.

The proposed project would be considered in a few days by the Council of Ministers and special discussions would later be held to outline the general framework of the medium-term development plan.

In its effort to attain high productivity standards through a set of available options, Kuwait seeks to establish a gradual balance of its population structure. Following the implementation of the high productivity standards, the average percentage of Kuwaiti population is expected to reach 33.6 per cent the total inhabitants during the years 96-2000, compared to existing 27.5 per cent.

The sources pointed out that the long-term plan takes into consideration all the developments on the international scene, specifically in major spheres, such as the crude oil, petrochemical products, tradeable and untradeable commodities and public service sectors.

In another development, Seyassah has interviewed Dr Al Moataz Khorsheed, an economic researcher at KISR and head of the KISR-MOP joint team entrusted with preparing the medium-term development plan. Khorsheed said that a number of experiments were performed using general balancing models taken from the social and arithmetical matrix developed jointly by KISR and the MOP.

He added that advanced analytical tools were primarily used in the process to develop patterns and proposed development options available to Kuwait.

Consideration was given to the particular characteristics of the Kuwaiti economy and related structural problems in addition to the results of the country's economic cycle study, the official said.

The results arrived at by the team involved three major axes which were profusely discussed at the Planning Ministry's offices late last year, he added.

Amir pats outstanding sportsmen

HIS Highness the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah yesterday received outstanding national sports teams to congratulate them for achieving top positions in recent Arab and Muslim competitions.

The meeting was attended by the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmad and the President of the Kuwaiti Olympic Committee, Sheikh Fahad Al Ahmad.

The outstanding teams included the national teams of volleyball, basketball, handball and track and field. The four teams have won the top awards in the Friendship and Peace championship organised in Kuwait last November.

Also attending the reception were national teams of swimming, tennis, judo, taekwondo, gymnastics and fencing.

In a brief statement, the Amir lauded efforts of managers of the teams in realising excellent performance and commended seriousness of players in perfecting their sports abilities.

He pointed out that their performances won Kuwait high reputation and printed the name of Kuwait in the record of competing countries in these sports.

The Minister of Social Affairs and Labour, Sheikh Nasser thanked the players for their outstanding performance, saying that they have earned the respect and admiration of officials in the country and abroad.

Sheikh Fahad Al Ahmad thanked the Amir for inviting the players to visit him and said sports teams in Kuwait always find utmost attention from government officials.

He noted that sports movement has begun retaining back its strength after troubles in past years. They retained strength, he said, was due to quite dialogue pursued by sports officials and practitioners.

Rain havoc in Bahrain

MANAMA, Jan 15, (AP): Little accustomed to rain, the central Gulf island state of Bahrain had more than 100 car accidents in a single day because of a rare downpour, police reported today.

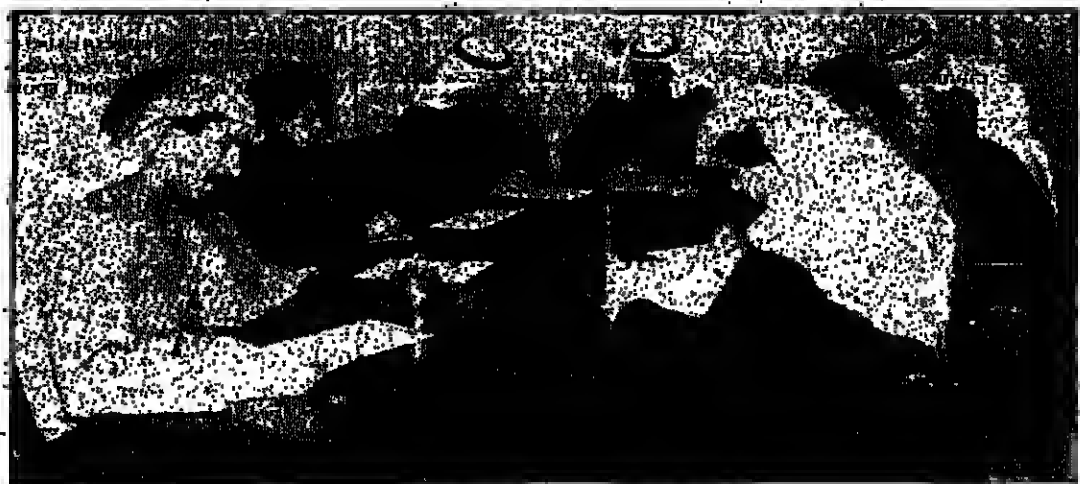
Police said most of the accidents yesterday were minor. But the Al Ayan daily estimated that between noon Sunday and 9 pm there were 120 accidents, four of them serious.

The meteorological office said Sunday was the wettest January day for 21 years with 29 mm (nearly 1 inch) of rain.

Bahrain, which lies off the arid Arabian peninsula, has an average of 11 days of rain a year and its drainage system is not built to cope with heavy rain that swamps the streets.

An old house also collapsed in the downpour.

On the peninsula, leaders often call on their nations to pray for rain, emulating early Islamic practices.



Photography contest

The photographic contest organised by the Ministry of Electricity and Water (MEW) which started yesterday will finish on Feb 15. The contest is organised to celebrate the National Day at the Benid Al Qar Club. The purpose of this open contest is to con-

serve the consumption of water and electricity. Picture shows director of Public Relations Department at MEW, Khalid Boudawi (4th from left) at the meeting with newsmen.

Committee for the handicapped

SOCIAL Affairs and Labour Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmad yesterday passed a decision forming the Kuwait committee for the handicapped.

The decision responds to a call by UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on UN member countries to form national committees for the disabled.

The committee was formed under chairmanship of Social Affairs Undersecretary Dr Latifa Al Rejeb and membership of representatives of all government and private sectors concerned with the handicapped affairs to lay down a clear policy. Authoritative sources at the ministry said that the committee held its first meeting by discussing the UN secretary-general's report on the decade for the handicapped.

The conference came to the conclusion that Kuwait was among the advanced countries in catering for the disabled and reviewed rehabilitation and employment of the handicapped.

Mother's role vital to save children from drug abuse

By Diana Abou Haider

Arab Times staff

WHEN a juvenile takes up drugs, the mother should be punished, said Nazeera Al Bader, head of the social committee of Bayader Al Salam Women's Society.

Speaking to her women audience at the second and last day (Sunday) of a seminar on youth and drugs organised by the society, she stressed the role of mothers in keeping their children away from drugs by providing continuous care and supervision.

As for adults, she said that she could not see any reason for youth in Gulf countries to become drug addicts other than the spiritual vacuum within them.

"I don't believe our youth face economic or political suppression problems faced in other Third World countries. What pushes them to

drugs is the vacuum in their hearts that could only be filled with God," Al Bader said.

"When they run to cocaine or alcohol for happiness they are mistaken. Real happiness comes from within, from faith, from our religion."

She said that in spite of international efforts to combat drugs, the problem is becoming more and more complicated. Al Bader believes that the youth of Islamic and Arab worlds are being targeted by organised drug cartels.

Sheikha Al Mussalam, supervisor of social workers at the Ministry of Education, talked about maintaining the delicate balance between trusting children and supervising them closely.

"Give your children enough leeway to act on their own, but always keep an eye on their

friends and how they spend their money," she advised the audience.

Fatima Hussain, supervisor at the Juvenile Department of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, also stressed the fact that too much pocket money for schoolchildren is not recommended.

"Giving your child one dinar a day makes him prey to drug pushers," she said.

Hussain stated that juveniles referred to her department usually sniff glue and gasoline, or drink alcohol or cocaine. She explained that failure in school, problems at home and bad friends are usually the reasons behind these children turning to substance abuse.

The social worker called on parents to follow up on their children's performance in schools, not to fight in front of them and not to discriminate between siblings.

CONDOLENCE

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MOTHER

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UK schools conference

THE ninth annual meeting of the British schools conference in the Middle East will begin here on Jan 29 to Feb 2.

The conference's activities will be held at the Gulf English School in Salwa neighbourhood where the main speaker will be Peter Watkins, the deputy chief executive of the national curriculum council.

Other speakers at the conference, sponsored by the British Council, include Iris Idle of Sheffield primary technology centre who will be managing workshops on craft design and technology.

Professor John Welton head of the school of education in Oxford who will be conducting workshops on educational management.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

NOT life, but a good life, is to be chiefly valued —
Socrates, Greek philosopher (about 470 BC - 399 BC).

Changed society awaits Mandela

SOWETO, South Africa. (Reuters): If Nelson Mandela is freed after more than a quarter of a century in South African jails he will return to 8115 Vilakasi Street in Soweto's Orlando West District, his home at the time of his arrest.

The modest red-brick bungalow where Mandela lived with his wife Winnie before his imprisonment in 1962 is not much different from the rows of other tiny homes in the neighbourhood, scornfully referred to by Sowetans as "matchboxes."

Mandela, 71, will remember the house much as it is today. The tree in the front garden has grown tall in the years he has been in jail and there is now a wall around the house in Johannesburg's huge black township.

The black, green and yellow flag of Mandela's outlawed African National Congress (ANC) flies from the rooftop in preparation for his homecoming. The house is guarded by young activists.

"We don't know when he will be coming home, but we know it will be soon," said one, who calls himself "General."

Mandela signalled for the first time last week that he expects to be freed soon, asking his wife Winnie to begin preliminary arrangements for his release.

"I don't think we are talking about months any longer," she told reporters after visiting Mandela at the Victor Verster prison 60 km (35 miles) northeast of Cape Town.

In Soweto, for the occasional husband of foreign tourists that weaves through the dusty streets to the home of the world's most famous political prisoner, there is an unfriendly message in graffiti opposite the Mandela house.

"Soweto is no zoo for white racist tourists," it reads.

Mandela has three houses in Soweto. One, a still-unfinished mansion built by Mrs Mandela with funds from foreign governments and philanthropic groups, has been criticised by Soweto residents as ostentatious. The other is an upmarket bungalow in the prosperous Diepkloof district, where she lives with her daughter Zindzi, born shortly after Mandela's arrest.

But Mandela's family and friends say he still considers the house on Vilakasi street his home.

Inside the house, an elderly grey-haired man living there temporarily waits by the telephone in a cramped dining room for news of his friend's homecoming.

"I am eagerly waiting for Mandela," said Wilton Mkwai, 67, an ANC veteran who was jailed for subversion in 1964, the same year Mandela was sentenced to life imprisonment for plotting to overthrow white rule.

"What tips do you have on the date he will be freed?" Mkwai asks a reporter. "Personally I hope it will be this month."

Mkwai knows what it is to spend a quarter of century waiting for freedom.

He spent 26 years in jail with Mandela on Robben Island and later in Cape Town's Pollsmoor prison before the government released him last October also with seven other prominent political prisoners.

In 1987 Mkwai married Irene, his 63-year-old fiancée of 20 years, in Pollsmoor. She died in December 1988, just 10 months before he was freed. He was not allowed to attend the funeral.

Mkwai is unimpressed and he says Mandela feels the same way. "The government that jailed us is not the same one in power now," he reflects. "The world has changed."

"Let us not hold grudges for what happened in the past," Mkwai said in an interview with Reuters. "This place is big now that sometimes I feel like a lost bird in the sky."

The new government of President De Klerk has vowed to accelerate political change in South Africa and said it recognises that Mandela's release is a prerequisite to any meaningful negotiations with the voteless black majority.

The new climate and the new president have spawned a weekly flurry of rumours that Mandela's release is imminent.

But the political climate was very different when Mandela and Mkwai were jailed under the then Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd, the architect of grand apartheid.

At the time, for example, the few whites who visited Soweto, South Africa's biggest black township, near Johannesburg, had to obtain permits.

"When they let me out there was the sea of faces of all colours here to greet me," said Mkwai. "I said to myself, 'Is it so easy for whites to get permits to come to the township now? I didn't realise you don't need them (permits) anymore. That is just one of the things that has changed.'"

Among other changes, the government lifted a ban on black trade unions in 1979 and repealed a law forbidding racially mixed marriages and sex across the colour line in 1985. In the following year it abolished the hated pass laws, one of the mainstays of apartheid, which restricted blacks' freedom of movement.

Despite the changes, however, several bedrock apartheid laws remain, including the Group Areas Act, which segregates residential areas by race, and the Population Registration Act, which classifies people by race at birth.

The rumours about Mandela's release continue to swirl. The latest is that it will be announced when De Klerk officially opens parliament in Cape Town on Feb 2.

"I hope it is before that. I hope De Klerk will just report to parliament that Mandela has already been released. Let me know if you hear anything about the date," said Mkwai.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1581 — Britain's Parliament takes stern measures against Roman Catholics.
- 1646 — Courtrai, Belgium, falls to French Army.
- 1666 — France, allied with Holland, declares war on England.
- 1761 — British take Pondicherry after siege, marking end of French dominion in India.
- 1778 — France recognizes US independence.
- 1816 — Portugal's South American colony, Brazil, becomes a kingdom.
- 1864 — Austria and Prussia send ultimatum to Denmark for repeal of constitution calling for incorporation of Schleswig.
- 1906 — Algerias conference on Morocco opens.
- 1925 — Leon Trotsky is dismissed from chairmanship of Russia's Revolutionary Council.
- 1964 — Thirteen Arab nations, meeting in Cairo, agree to set up military command to strengthen Arab position on problems related to Israel.
- 1966 — Major General Aguiyi Ironsi takes over power in Nigeria after announcing that an attempted coup had been smashed.
- 1969 — Soviet cosmonauts achieve first linkup of two manned spacecrafts while in orbit around earth.
- 1971 — Swiss ambassador to Brazil, Giovanni Enrico Bucher, is freed in Rio de Janeiro after being held by kidnappers for 40 days.
- 1973 — United States and South Vietnam declare ceasefire in Vietnam war in hopes of full peace pact.
- 1979 — Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi flees Iran after new civilian government is approved in parliament.
- 1987 — Hu Yaobang resigns as head of China's Communist Party, accepting blame for policy mistakes stemming from a student turmoil.
- 1988 — Iranian gunboats raid Japanese-operated tanker at entrance to Gulf, leaving it disabled.
- 1989 — Officials from 35 nations work in Vienna to conclude an agreement that would reduce the threat of war in Europe and improve human rights in communist countries.



Members of kibbutz Ramot Menashe have requested a meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to explain their intentions. (Reuter wirephoto)

Peace movement struggles

Biggest Israeli-PLO meeting planned

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (AP): On a small kibbutz just south of the port city of Haifa, a new pioneering spirit is taking hold.

For the last month, the members of Ramot Menashe have been busy planning what might prove to be the biggest meeting ever between Israelis and the PLO.

If the Egyptian government agrees to act as host for the meeting, a convoy of buses — dubbed by the kibbutz "the peace caravan" — will begin to make its way around the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and through the Sinai Peninsula toward Cairo near the end of January.

"After the fall of the Berlin Wall, we can no longer accept the continued existence of paper walls preventing dialogue between peoples," the kibbutz declared last month when members decided to go ahead with the trip to Egypt.

"The grassroots initiative already has caused a small political storm in right-wing circles but to date more than 1,500 applications to join the 'peace caravan' have poured into the kibbutz from university lecturers, rabbis, peace activists and parliamentarians."

Sarah Ozacky, 43, an organizer of the two-day trip, said her kibbutz wanted to do more than stage a demonstration to prove "that a dialogue is possible" between Israelis and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

"We felt it was time to try something different. The idea of the trip is to break the ice," she said.

Kibbutz Ramot Menashe's impatience underlines a growing feeling in left-wing political circles that time is running out; that more dramatic forms of protest are needed to put pressure on the government.

"The peace movement has to become a movement of revolt. It's not enough to protest and to demonstrate," said Prof. Yeshagahu Leibovitz, who at 87 is considered a spiritual leader for those calling for more radical forms of protest.

The Palestinian struggle for independence, in particular the 2-year-old uprising, has hardened the government's resolve against talking with the PLO.

Members of Kibbutz Ramot Menashe have requested a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister

Yitzhak Shamir to explain their intentions. They have assured the government they do not plan to break the law or negotiate with the PLO.

Organizers have described the proposed Israeli-Palestinian meeting as an informal "happening" in a Cairo park. PLO chairman Yasser Arafat has said he would attend.

But the organizers, heeding legal advice in every step of the planning, intend to remain within Israeli law by using intermediaries to talk with PLO officials.

The proposed meeting comes at a time when the peace process is at an impasse. The United States, Israel and Egypt are trying to bring about an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue but differ on several key issues, including the role of the PLO.

While the three governments work to find a consensus, activists and analysts say the uprising and the Israeli military's brutal response "has radicalized the peace movement."

"The movement has never been more united in calling upon Israelis to talk with the PLO, but differences remain on what strategies are politically effective."

Peace Now, Israel's oldest and largest mainstream peace group, is an example of the emerging consensus. During the past year, they have begun to call on the government to negotiate directly with the PLO. But they have refused to support the Kibbutz Ramot Menashe's "peace caravan."

"We are always thinking in terms of political effects," said Amiram Goldblum, a Peace Now spokesman. "The meeting in Egypt, which will be a direct meeting with prominent persons in the PLO, will be used by the right-wing in Israel to put more pressure on the government."

"We understand their (the Kibbutz members') position but we don't sympathize with it," he said. "We are not sure it will help us in spreading the idea of negotiations."

Peace Now members meet with Palestinians in the occupied territories, and, using intermediaries as so as not to break Israeli law, have participated in discussions with PLO representatives in Europe and North America.

But the group's mainstays have been demonstrations in Israel calling for Israeli-Palestinian talks.

In their boldest demonstration since the start of the Palestinian uprising, Peace Now sponsored a December peace protest with 20,000 Israelis, Palestinians and foreigners joining hands around the walled old city and calling for negotiations with the PLO and a two-state solution.

Goldblum admits that demonstrations are not the only vehicle the peace movement has to institute change within Israel, but he remains skeptical of the "peace caravan."

"I understand the pressures but those people must understand it's not a question of how far you go but how effective you are."

Leibovitz, a professor at Hebrew University in occupied Jerusalem who has been warning Israelis since 1967 of the damage the occupation is inflicting on the country's moral fabric, is critical of Peace Now's cautious approach.

"I call for breaking the law and they say 'do not,'" Leibovitz said. "They are slowly but surely understanding my position. The law of the state is the highest measure for human conduct."

Yesh Gvul, Hebrew for "there's a limit," is one peace group in Israel that supports those who refuse to serve in the occupied territories.

Formed in 1982, it asked Israelis not to serve in the Lebanon war. Today it supports the families of reservists who refuse to serve in the occupied territories for moral and political reasons.

Despite the differences, Leibovitz believes the peace groups have accomplished something.

"The peace movement has succeeded in breaking the so-called national consensus," he said "there has been a deep change in consciousness in many Israelis."

According to a poll late last year, 62 per cent of Israelis questioned said they approved of the principle of talking with the PLO.

Despite any changes in Israeli public opinion, the Israeli government remains steadfast in its refusal to talk with the PLO. To hammer home the point, Shamir recently ordered the dismissal of maverick politician Ezer Weizman from the policy-making inner cabinet after accusing him of maintaining contacts with the PLO.

In search of peace in Cambodia

BANGKOK, Thailand. (AP): Nations that recall the horror of Khmer Rouge rule in the 1970s are searching for a negotiated settlement of the Cambodian war with renewed urgency, amid reports of Khmer Rouge jungle advances.

The momentum was quickened Friday after Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev's announcement in Beijing that the Soviet Union and China have agreed the United Nations should play "a very major role" in a settlement.

The announcement was significant because the Soviets arm the Vietnamese-installed government and China arms the opposition guerrillas, including the Khmer Rouge.

The announcement added to increasing hopes centred around Australia's proposal for a UN interim authority in Cambodia, which diplomats call the most promising peace plan in years.

The Soviet Union, China and the three other permanent members of the UN Security Council, Britain, France and the United States, will discuss the Australian and other Cambodian peace initiatives at a major meeting in Paris today and tomorrow.

International fear of the Khmer Rouge is rooted in their 1975-78 rule of Cambodia, during which hundreds of thousands of the nation's 8 million people were murdered, starved to death, or died in civil unrest.

The Khmer Rouge, who toppled the US backed Lon Nol government in April 1975, were only driven out by a full-scale Vietnamese invasion in December 1978. But even though they were reviled for a policy of emptying the cities and banishing residents — including bed-ridden hospital patients — to slave labour camps in the countryside, they retained a following. Now, with Thai and Chinese aid, they have rebounded into the largest opposition group fighting the Phnom Penh government.

Dread of a Khmer Rouge return intensified in September, when Vietnam withdrew troops aiding the Hanoi-installed government. That fear was heightened last week when Khmer Rouge guerrillas claimed to have set off explosives in the two largest cities — including the capital of Phnom Penh.

Sources in Phnom Penh confirmed a bombing attack did occur on Jan 5 and 6 — the eve of the national day anniversary of the end of Khmer Rouge rule.

Khmer Rouge rebels claimed the attacks were so successful that the leadership fled to Vietnam. But while the claim seemed exaggerated, Premier Hun Sen did shift a meeting with an Australian envoy from the capital to an eastern province bordering Vietnam.

The Cambodian government acknowledged an attack near Battambang provincial capital in the northwest. However, the Khmer Rouge guerrillas claimed they set parts of the city ablaze on Jan 5 and 6 and battered the military command headquarters and an airfield. They said the attacks were continuing.

The effect of the attacks has been "more psychological than strategic," according to Western diplomatic sources, who predicted more such strikes in coming weeks. The strikes will bolster Khmer Rouge bargaining power at the peace talks, according to the sources who declined to be identified.

"If we let the situation persist and the Khmer Rouge gain more ground, they might harden their stance at the negotiating table," said Ek Seyewatch, a spokesman for Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Soviets struggle to emigrate

MOSCOW, (AP): When Efem Starovinsky finally wrested an exit permit from Soviet officials after a 10-year struggle, he thought his emigration problems were over. Then he tried to buy an airline ticket.

Starovinsky is one of the thousands of Soviet Jews discovering that while President Mikhail Gorbachev has chipped away at political barriers to emigration, bureaucratic and logistical hassles remain. In fact, those problems are getting worse as more people flood an underdeveloped transportation and currency exchange system designed for only a trickle of travellers.

Space on Soviet and foreign airplanes is at a premium because the number of Soviets travelling or emigrating, as well as the number of foreign tourists and businessmen travelling to the Soviet Union, has skyrocketed. Foreign tourists and businessmen also

pay for their seats in coveted hard currency, while Soviet emigrants pay in Soviet roubles.

A record number of 71,509 Jews left the Soviet Union last year, of whom 11,994 settled in Israel. Most of the rest went to the United States.

Starovinsky, a 40-year-old father of two from Lithuania, waited daily in the cold and snow outside the Moscow offices of the Hungarian airline Malev along with dozens of other Jews to get tickets to fly to Budapest, and from there to Israel.

"We waited for many years for the hour when we could arrive in Israel," Starovinsky and his group said in an appeal to the Israeli government and emigre activist Natan Sharansky, who heads an Israeli emigre aid organisation. "And now, when we have passed through a large part of the journey, we have wound up in a desperate situation."

He says airline officials claim no spaces are available for him and his family and only accept two or three names daily on a waiting list. Malev officials could not be reached for comment on the situation, despite a month of attempts.

Soviet officials refused for 10 years to give Starovinsky an exit permit because his parents, who were loyal communists, wouldn't give their consent. He finally received the permit in September when his parents relented, and has been trying since to get a ticket out, in the interim becoming a man without a country.

Would-be emigres give up their apartments, jobs and Soviet citizenship before converging on Moscow from throughout the country to try to obtain airline tickets to Budapest, Hungary, or Bucharest, Romania, the only two transit points from which Israel will accept them.

Eastern Europe tastes freedom

VIENNA, Austria. (AP): The tide of popular will that has forced the scheduling of free elections in most East bloc nations appears to be sweeping the Soviet Union along.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, under pressure to expand political reform, suggested Saturday that he would not resist moves to allow multiple parties in the Soviet Union.

In Poland, Hungary, Romania, Czechoslovakia and East Germany, the communists already have given up their leading role in society, under pressure from pro-democracy movements that triggered revolutionary upheavals late last year.

In Bulgaria, the Communist Party is to waive its leading role in the near future. As in the other countries, eliminating the party's official dominance requires a change in the constitution.

Even non-aligned Yugoslavia's Communist Party has promised free elections, but it is still not clear how soon they will take place.

Hungary will be the first East bloc country to stage multi-party elections this year. Its Parliament, shedding the role of a rubber-stamp body, has provided the legal basis for the registration and operation of political parties and made other provisions for multi-party democracy.

The Hungarian elections in March will see a variety of conservative, social democratic and peasant parties vying for votes.

The Hungarian Communist Party, which last year converted itself into the Hungarian Socialist Party, could end up in a ruling coalition or in opposition.

In Romania, where the revolution is only three weeks old, it is hard to say what parties will take part in the first elections after the ouster of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. The election date is also unclear.

The ruling National Salvation Front Council said it would arrange for elections in May, but the National Peasant Party and other emerging political groups insist they need more time to prepare for the vote.

Therefore, the interim leadership is likely to postpone the election date at least until summer.

Under pressure from an angry crowd in Bucharest, interim Romanian President Ion Iliescu on Friday declared the Communist Party outlawed. On Saturday, however, he reversed himself, saying it had been a rash decision and the issue would be resolved at a referendum on Jan 28.

In Czechoslovakia, half a dozen parties, including the Communist Party, may take part in the country's first free elections since 1945. Ballotting is scheduled for June.

Even though they don't face a ban like in Romania, the Czechoslovak communists stand little chance to regain prominence and influence.

The Communist Party has been discredited by the failure of its leaders, installed after the 1968 Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia, to denounce the invasion, respect human rights and open a dialogue with opposition intellectuals.

Just two months after the peaceful revolution started in mid-November, communists already are a minority in the 21-member government and will shortly be a minority in Parliament.

In Bulgaria, new Communist Party chief Petar Mladenov has also promised multi-party elections.

Several political groups, led by the ecoglass-nost movement, have been set up, but it is still unclear who the main contenders in the elections, tentatively scheduled for May, will be.

Bulgaria has not had revolutions like East Germany, Czechoslovakia or Romania, and the Communist Party is still powerful.

However, after the Nov 10, 1989, ouster of long-time party and state leader Todor Zhivkov, who may be tried for corruption and other crimes, nine burgeoning political groups have banded together and formed the Union of Democratic Forces.

UDF representatives this week were negotiating with the ruling communists on ethnic issues, and will soon sit down for talks on power-sharing, elections schedules, introduction of effective multi-party democracy and other key issues.

Quote me

"Black and white recruits tended to come from different socioeconomic strata within their respective populations, with black recruits coming disproportionately from areas with above-average black incomes, and better-educated black adults. Only 44 per cent of black, male, active-duty recruits in 1987 came from areas in the bottom half of the income distribution for black families, compared with almost 55 per cent of white recruits." — A US congressional budget office report on the US Armed Forces.

"Today's rally was only Vilnius. Tomorrow we have invited people from all over Lithuania. If Gorbachev appears and wants to address the crowd, we would be delighted, we would be happy for him to see how people rally free." — A Lithuanian on the upcoming secession rally.

"My heart is in Israel, and there is no way I would have said anything that would have belittled the state of Israel or the memories of the survivors of the Holocaust." — Anna Mandorff apologising after making statements which touched Israeli sentiments.

"A person who lives in Hungary must know that he has been followed, his telephone has been bugged, his letters have been opened for decades. This is what we have had to live with. But with the multi-party system in store, the situation must change radically." — Social Democrats spokesman on how Hungarians feel about the scandal.

"We haven't really started discussions with Colombia. There are some stories that have leaked in the press. We are looking at ways we might be able to improve interdigitation across the Caribbean. Before we undertake anything, we will of course consult with any of the countries (involved)." — US National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft on joint drug blockade with Colombia.

"Let him come here and see that all of us want to leave the Soviet Union. Let him see that it is not just extremists but the entire Lithuanian people." — Edwardas Balsukas, 60, a retired natural gas worker on Gorbachev's visit to the republic.

"Every interview I do with a reporter, I know I'll have to answer questions about being Wayne's brother. It's just a matter of time. Some of the questions can be pretty simple, like 'what's it like being Wayne's brother?' What can you say to that? He's my brother. He's gotten everything he's deserved. I've gotten used to the questions, but I think it's waste of time to make comparisons. Wayne's Wayne. We have our own styles." — Keith Grezky, Wayne's younger brother who is also into professional hockey.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Merger move will help boost competitive edge

Economy back on the right track

By Lima Al Khalefawi
Arab Times staff

THE government is seriously determined to carry out the recommendations of the economic-revival programme to put the local economy back on the right track, Kuwait's Central Bank governor, Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah announced yesterday. Addressing a lecture at the Economics and Political Science Faculty of Kuwait University, he expressed optimism about the bright future awaiting the local economy. "I believe that all local and external conditions make the Kuwaiti economy well set for emergence more than any time before," Sheikh Salem emphasised.

He said that although the performance of the national economy

improvement in the past three years, it was not up to the rates and quality aimed at and wanted by the country's economic administration. The latest measures thus came to put the national economy back on the right track and achieve the required development.

Speaking about the reactions to the economic revival report, Sheikh Salem said that all the reactions have convinced us that the various sectors and economic activities in the country are ready to start working, motivated in this by the atmosphere of confidence and trust in the resources of our economy and its true ability that can push our country forward towards progress and prosperity.

Sheikh Salem stressed that the economic recommendations are

in line with the country's economic directives, the long-term development strategy and with the study to amend the course of the Kuwaiti economy.

He said that although many of the recommendations aim at improving the performance of some economic sectors in the short run, they at the same time reflect a government's intention to introduce changes in the structural characteristics of the Kuwaiti economy.

About the recommendations on the difficult bank debts, the governor said that the recommendations to settle debts up to KD 250,000 came after it was found that the number of dealers having such debts were 681 comprising 54 per cent of the total indebted dealers.

It was also found that their



Sheikh Salem

total debts were only KD 55 million or just 2.5 per cent of the KD 2.2 billion bad debts. Furthermore, KD 15 million of the 55 million were mortgaged by the banks and this leaves only KD 40

million for the banks to deal with.

He said that these debts involve all the local commercial banks, stressing that it will be easy for them to write off these debts. The recommendations also included giving the commercial banks a financial support to be able to carry out the settlement scheme.

Sheikh Salem said that the proposed merger of the local commercial banks will be one of the factors that will strengthen the efficiency of using the support money. The merger, he stressed, would boost the financial position of these banks and increase its competition in foreign markets.

He said that the proposed financial backing for the banks aims as a first step, to allow the state

lift the guarantee on the shareholders rights in preparation to lift the guarantee on the depositors rights after setting up an establishment to guarantee bank deposits. After that, Sheikh Salem said that in the light of an entirely different policy, the commercial banks will have to bear the consequences of their decisions, hinging that the banks after that stage will have to work on their own. He said that the financial backing paid to the banks will be restored by the government after enabling the banks build up the necessary allocations.

The official said that the support offered to banks will be fully refunded after completion of building its necessary allocations. He added that it is worth mentioning about the recom-

mendation concerning the financial support to deficit banks as necessary to set regulations and terms to these banks in order to upgrade its management and develop its activities to reach the aim of increasing the operations and to hasten the refund of the financial support.

Sheikh Salem said that the joint economic report included other recommendations in the field of developing the difficult debts clearance programme. The recommendations are based on three points. The first is to protect the banking sector regarded as one of the vital sectors of the national economy. Secondly to hasten solving the financial problems of the banks and thirdly a final outcome of the joint report in the field of developing the clearance programme.

Dollar closes higher

LONDON, Jan 15, (UPI): The dollar closed higher against the major European currencies today. Gold was down.

The dollar closed higher in Frankfurt at 1.6895 German marks against Friday's close at 1.6760 and also was higher in Zurich at 1.5070 Swiss francs against 1.4960, in Paris at 5.7285 French francs against 5.7230, in Brussels at 35.42 Belgian francs against 35.06, and in Milan at 1,255.50 lire against 1,254.50.

In London, the pound closed lower at \$1.6640 against \$1.67 at Friday's close.

In Zurich, gold closed lower at \$415 per ounce against \$417 per ounce at Friday's close and also was lower in London at \$412.50 per ounce against \$417.75 per ounce.

Silver closed lower in Zurich at \$5.30 per ounce against \$5.35 per ounce and also was lower in London at \$5.26 per ounce against \$5.33 per ounce.

In London shares were holding above the day's lows this afternoon as Wall Street defied fears of a sharp sell-off and eased relatively modestly in active two-way trade.

The New York market fell 19 points at one stage before rallying slightly, but this was far less than many dealers had expected and raised hopes there would be no repeat of Friday's 2.6 per cent, or 71 point, plunge.

Wall Street stocks down

NEW YORK, Jan 15, (Reuters): Wall Street stocks resumed their decline today, but a big slide that had been feared after Friday's worrying drop did not occur.

The Dow Jones industrial average, a key index comprising 30 blue-chip stocks, was down 10.67 points at 2,678.54 at noon after falling 71.46 points in the previous session. Friday's drop was the steepest since October 14, when the Dow plunged 190.58 points in its second largest ever decline.

Shares in the broader market were weighed down by news that two more companies owned by Canada's Campeau Corp. Federated Department Stores Inc. and Allied Stores Corp. filed for bankruptcy.

Declining issues outnumbered advances three to one on the New York Stock Exchange. Trading was moderate, with 70 million shares changing hands by midday.

Accord on air links

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 15, (Reuters): Israel said today it had signed an agreement to establish air links with Czechoslovakia, one of the first steps towards resuming full relations.

The Transport Ministry said the agreement in principle for flights between Tel Aviv and Prague was signed in the Czechoslovak capital last week. El Al and CSA Czechoslovak Airlines are to begin scheduled flights this summer.

A Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry official who visited Israel last week said the two countries would soon restore full ties after 22 years. Prague followed the Soviet Union in severing ties with the Jewish State over the 1967 Middle East war.

Romania was the only East European country that did not break off ties.

Farmers on strike

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 15, (Reuters): Farmers along Israel's northern border staged a strike today to protest economic hardships, saying "Katvasha" rockets would not drive them from their homes but poverty might.

Residents of 52 farming settlements stayed away from work and kept children home from school. Some burned tyres and blocked roads, drawing large numbers of police to disperse them, Israel radio said.

"No boy, no family left the Galilee settlements because of Katvasha attacks or security but dozens left behind families and more will leave if we don't find an economic base," said Nissan Zvili, a representative of the agricultural co-operatives.

The farmers are demanding higher government subsidies for eggs and chickens. But Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-Oz said in a television interview yesterday the farmers should diversify their economic base and rely less on agriculture.

"I definitely agree with the agricultural minister's call in principle that we have to vary the sources of employment in the area," Zvili said.

Heating oil prices soar

Prices may limit Opec output cut

LONDON, Jan 15, (Reuters): Petroleum Intelligence Weekly said today that Opec output cuts under a new accord effective January 1 were starting to materialise but high prices and strong demand could mean that some planned curbs are scrapped.

This would mean reductions fell short of the 1.5 million barrels per day (bpd) that had seemed possible.

PIW, a New York-based industry newsletter, said Nigeria was trimming by 150,000 bpd, a decline of 300,000 bpd in Abu Dhabi. It also projected a 400,000 bpd cut in Saudi Arabia.

It quoted Kuwait Petroleum Co. as saying spot sales are being ended east of Suez and marginal domestic refinery runs curbed.

A projected 400,000 bpd slash in January Saudi wellhead output is apparently being made without any significant propagating of buyers lifting

New oil strike

DAMASCUS, Syria, Jan 15, (AP): The French Total oil company has made a new strike in the Wadi Oubaid region of northeast Syria, an official source at the Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals reported today.

The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, gave details of the strike such as the depth it was made or the daily oil flow.

But he said Total was continuing prospecting in the region to assess the size of the discovery.

Total is one of 10 foreign companies involved in exploration and development of Syria's oilfields.

Crude oil production is currently running at around 350,000 barrels a day and is expected to soon reach 400,000 barrels daily when the Al Teyyan and Azra fields in the northeast go on stream.

Prohibition is double domestic requirements and last year Syria became a net exporter for the first time, with revenues of \$650 million.

Crude oil is in generous supply. The snag is that the world-wide refining system cannot always process it fast or flexibly enough to meet reviving — but fluctuating — demand for petrol, diesel and heating fuel.

Temporary periods of tight supply at the "downstream" end

of the oil business may then translate into higher consumer prices.

"There just isn't much spare capacity of the right kind in the refining system," said Peter Nicol, an analyst with finance house Warburg Securities.

"So when you get something extraordinary like very cold weather, the price has to take the strain."

The problem is partly a legacy of the glut of the mid-1980s when high crude prices charged by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries sent con-

sumers rushing to buy smaller cars and turn down their thermostats, so that oil demand skidded.

Prices soon collapsed, too, discouraging investment by the oil companies. Billions of dollars may have to be spent to clear the refining bottleneck now that more modest pricing and continued economic expansion have triggered a rebound in demand.

Foreign interest spurs stocks to new highs

ISTANBUL, Jan 15, (Reuters): Share prices on the fledgling Istanbul Stock Exchange powered their way to new highs today, spurred by increased foreign interest in Turkish issues, dealers said.

Bucking a trend in world markets, the Istanbul index hit 3,072 in morning trading, up from 2,974.84 at Friday's close and 2,214.18 at the end of last year.

This compares with lows of around 370 following the October 1988 world stock market crash.

Almost daily rises since January 2 have forced operators to reconsider their outlooks for 1990 but they see a bright year for the exchange, which opened in 1986 with the index at 100.

"We had expected the index to rise to the 4,000 level in 1990 but it has already passed 3,000," said broker Cihan Kemer, adding that he saw no signs of a big slowdown at this stage.

A major spur to trading has been last August's decree opening of the market to foreign players and allowing them to repatriate funds. The index stood at around 700 before the change.

Bankers said the index was likely to rise, but not at the same hectic pace, at least until March when Turkish companies announce their annual profit figures.

"The recent rise has been too sharp but high demand will continue because people are tending to lose interest in foreign exchange, gold and government paper because of relatively low returns," a

senior Turkish banker said.

Daily trading volume on the exchange last week averaged 48 billion lira (\$20.7 million), up from three billion lira (\$1.3 million) last August.

The exchange has a market capitalisation of 15.5 trillion lira (\$6.7 billion).

Bankers said daily trading volume of above 20 billion lira (\$8.6 million) was an indicator of stability on the market, where local investors can reap good yields despite a national annual inflation rate of around 70 per cent.

Another push for the exchange was the start late last year of the Turkish investment fund, a US-listed \$54 million fund underwritten by the International Finance Corporation.

Call to revise '60s pact

Prague threatens to pull out of Comecon

PRAGUE, Jan 15, (Reuters): Finance ministers of the Soviet-led trading bloc Comecon meet tomorrow with host Czechoslovakia threatening to pull out of an exchange rate pact unless it is revised.

Czechoslovak officials said the question of exchange rates between the non-convertible currencies of the 10-nation grouping was likely to dominate the three-day meeting of Comecon's currency and finance committee.

At last week's meeting of Comecon prime ministers in Sofia, Czechoslovak delegates called for revision of a 1960s agreement that non-commercial exchange rates between members can only be changed by the consent of both sides.

"We think that the rates of exchange are against the interests of Czechoslovakia, so we have to revalue the Czechoslovak crown against most of the Eastern currencies," Finance Minister Václav Klaus told reporters.

But he said the so-called Karl-Marx-Stadt agreement as it stood at present prevented Prague from doing that unilaterally.

"If we don't agree (at the Prague meeting) we will

withdraw from that agreement," Czechoslovakia's state planning chief Vladimir Dlouhy told reporters in Sofia.

Last week, Czechoslovakia devalued its crown by at least 17 per cent against Western currencies.

Klaus said that during the Prague meeting Czechoslovak and Polish financial and banking experts would draw up details of a bilateral pact on trade relations, exchange rates, balance of payments settlement and financing of surpluses.

This would be an example of the growing trend towards bilateral deals between Comecon members instead of the multilateral barter pacts fixed by Comecon in the past.

The trend is led by Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary, three countries which are also making the running in the move towards Western-style democracy and free market economics which is sweeping the East bloc.

Prime ministers at the Sofia session agreed to switch their trade gradually onto a basis of hard currency accounting and world market prices.

Opec Fund loans signed

VIENNA, Jan 15, (Opecna): The Opec Fund for International Development is to extend \$12 million in concessional loans to four developing countries as part of its efforts to promote South-South solidarity.

Under its ninth lending programme, which covers the 1990-91 period, South Yemen will receive a \$5 million loan to help finance an electricity project, with the aim of connecting its national grid with that of neighbouring North Yemen.

The \$48.78 million scheme will ensure uninterrupted power supplies and expand the electricity distribution network to households, businesses and industries in towns and villages along the two countries' border.

Mihai Croitoru, deputy director at the Foreign Trade ministry, said Romania faced a nightmare task in trying to determine just what its assets were.

Figures for industrial and agricultural output were consistently falsified in the Ceausescu era to satisfy the exorbitant demands of the dictator.

It was discovered, for example, that grain output last year was only 18 million tonnes compared to the 60 million tonnes Ceausescu proclaimed in November.

Croitoru said in an interview the top priority was to import food and animal feed for a 23 million population forced to edge of starvation by Ceausescu's policies.

On the industrial side, the priority was for power and raw materials to keep factories operating. Some plans in the key

petrochemicals sector had been functioning at only 60 per cent capacity even before the revolution.

The former Communist Party newspaper Adevarul warned at the weekend that the country's coal-fired power stations were running out of fuel, creating a "grade one alarm" over the energy situation.

The Soviet Union has promised energy aid to help the country through the bitter winter and Western European countries are discussing various forms of aid and co-operation.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said in Bucharest today that Prime Minister Roman had asked the Bonn government for help in the energy sector.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Jan 15, (Reuters): The market closed sharply weaker after suffering its biggest single fall since world markets stumbled badly last October.

The All Ordinaries index plunged 51.9 to close at 1,681.7.

TOKYO: Closed for holiday.

HONG KONG: Stocks failed to recover from an early slide in response to Wall Street's 71-point retreat on Friday. The Hang Seng index closed down 49.25 at 2,786.69.

SINGAPORE: The 30-share index slumped 33.63 points to 1,525.54 in reaction to Friday falls on major markets.

BOMBAY: India's new government set budget day for March 20 — later than normal but sooner than previously announced — drawing attention to possible policy changes. The Bombay Stock Exchange index fell 5.87 points to 419.84.

FRANKFURT: West German shares surprised dealers by shrugging off a slump on Wall Street on Friday and closing above opening lows, ending at 1,841.61, off just 14.05 from Friday.

ZURICH: Shares closed lower but showed some resilience against Wall Street's fall on Friday. The SPI Index fell 12.6 to 1,139.4, above the day's low of 1,136.5.

PARIS: French share prices closed weaker but well off their lows. The CAC-40 index ended 5.76 off at 1,962.89.

LONDON: Shares were above the day's lows in the afternoon as Wall Street defied fears of a sharp sell-off. By 1536 GMT the FTSE 100 was 22.7 off at 2,357.4.

NEW YORK: The stock market ended its headlong fall on Friday, declining only slightly as blue chips recouped some early losses. The Dow was off eight at 2680 after falling to 2671.

EEC jobless rate lowest in 8 years

BRUSSELS, Jan 15, (UPI): The unemployment rate in the 12-nation European Economic Community declined in November to 8.9 per cent, falling below 9 per cent for the first time since 1982, officials said today.

The seasonally adjusted jobless rate 12 months ago was 9.7 per cent.

Only Denmark and West Germany registered slight increases in unemployment between October and November, from 7.9 to 8.0 per cent and from 5.6 to 5.7 per cent, respectively.

Analysts attributed the West German jobless rise to migration of workers from East Germany and other Eastern European countries. The Danish unemployment rate has been rising steadily, from 6.9 per cent a year ago.

The EEC jobless rate among people under age 25 fell slightly in November, from 17.2 to 17.1 per cent, but was as high as 19.1 per cent a year ago.

The latest figures and the 12-month trend "shows that the investment and growth-oriented policies of the community are working, within the framework of the internal market before the end of 1992," said Henning Christophersen, EEC commissioner for economic and financial affairs.

"The aim of full employment is still far off but I am particularly happy that youth unemployment is falling even faster," he said.

Christophersen said the unemployment trend would be beneficial to EEC officials in upcoming talks on economic and monetary union.

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Tunisia, N. Yemen may lose in E. Europe

Investment rush

BAHRAIN, Jan 15, (Reuters): Economic aid to Arab states like Tunisia, North Yemen and Algeria would probably stop as Western and Eastern Bloc countries pour funds into East Europe, a Palestinian economist said today.

Nabil Shaath, adviser to PLO leader Yasser Arafat, said highly trained East European workers would choose to work in West Europe rather than Arab countries, and returning Arab labour from Europe would put additional pressure on the region.

He told 350 participants from Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates attending a two-day marketing course they must think of their role in East Europe. "We must think of the role we can play in East Europe," he said. "I underline the contracting sector because Saudi contractors with Sudanese labour could invade these markets."

In the short term, the political and economic upheavals in East Europe were not in the interests of Arab states, he said.

But this could change if Arab nations formed a unified economic bloc to take advantage of new opportunities generated by the change, Shaath added.

"East Europe is a big prospective market for Gulf states in particular because they are the only Arab countries who can finance with their trade," Shaath, chairman of the Palestine National Council's political committee, said.

"We want all of Europe to become a market for Arab exports and investments and the only way we can do this is by becoming a unified Arab bloc," he said.

Shaath said Arab causes would take a back seat initially as East and West Europe concentrated on unifying their policies.

KD deposit rates firm

KUWAIT, Jan 15, (Reuters): Kuwaiti deposit rates remained today in quiet trade, dealers said.

In the short term, overnight was bid 1/4 point firmer at eight 7-3/4 per cent. Spot-next rose 1/8 point to 8-1/2 1/4, while one week was steady at 8-1/2 1/4.

In the fixed rates one and three months edged up 1/16 point to 8-9/16 1/2 and six months climbed 1/8 point to 8-1/2 1/4. One year was quoted at 8-3/8 1/4.

The Central Bank left its dinar exchange rate unchanged at 0.29125/35 to the dollar, where it has stayed since Thursday.

Meanwhile Saudi riyal spot-next deposit rates rose after demand increased late today, dealers said.

Spot-next had been quoted at 8-1/2 eight per cent earlier in the day, but climbed to 9-1/2 nine after a bond issued by the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency drained liquidity out of the market and after bidding for funds by banks and corporations.

SAS to fly to Latvia

STOCKHOLM, Jan 15, (Reuters): Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS) plans to begin direct flights to Riga in the Soviet Republic of Latvia in April and is also considering services to East Berlin and Prague, a spokesman said yesterday.

The scheduled flights to Riga will probably fly twice a week, and the Soviet airline Aeroflot will shortly announce details of reciprocal flights to Stockholm, the spokesman added.

SAS last November became the first Western carrier to fly to the Baltic Republic when it opened a route between Stockholm and the Estonian capital, Tallinn. The twice-weekly flights are already proving to be commercially successful.

The Latvian division of Aeroflot has asked SAS to advise on upgrading to international standard Riga airport, which at present has only domestic traffic, the SAS spokesman said.

SAS is considering direct flights to Prague and East Berlin, and has increased the frequency of its Copenhagen-Budapest flights to daily, he added.

EXCHANGE RATES

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Indian rupee | 0.017350 |
| Sri Lanka rupee | 0.017350 |
| Pakistan rupee | 0.017350 |
| Bangladesh taka | 0.008700 |
| US dollar | 29.2030 |
| Pound sterling | 487.500 |
| UAH dirham | 0.079480 |
| Deutsche mark | 1.73450 |
| Japanese yen | 0.002014 |

Analysts see more gloom for Tokyo stock market

Kaifu vows more aid to Poland

WARSAW, Poland, Jan 15, (AP): Prime Minister Toshiaki Kaifu of Japan today assured President Wojciech Jaruzelski of further economic support for Poland as economic experts discussed terms of future Japanese credit guarantees.

Kaifu also met with Sejm Speaker Mikolaj Kozakiewicz and Senate Speaker Andrzej Stelmachowski on the final day of a two-day visit to Poland, the PAP news agency reported.

The Japanese leader also today met with Solidarity Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki. Polish officials hope the visit will lead to an increased level in economic co-operation between the two countries.

PAP said that Kaifu told Jaruzelski that Japan would increase its support for the changes underway in Poland, particularly in the field of financial co-operation.

Poland and Japan signed an agreement yesterday in which Tokyo pledged a \$150-million credit to a stabilisation fund to back the zloty as the conversion to a convertible Polish currency is made.

Japan also agreed to provide Poland with \$25 million worth of food aid, and \$15 million to help train Polish managers.

Japan is considering a possible \$350-million guarantee for government investments as well as a \$300-million guarantee by the Japanese Exim Bank for Japanese investments in Poland during talks on Sunday.

The conditions of the guarantees have yet to be worked out by both sides.

Poland is also hoping for Japanese support during negotiations by the Paris Club on Poland's \$40-billion foreign debt.

Poland would like a three-year relief on interest payments on the debt so that precious hard currency can be used for investment purposes and to stabilise the currency.

Kaifu is scheduled to travel to Budapest later in the day for the final stop on a seven-country 10-day tour of Europe.

In another development, analysts said today a weak yen and low government bond prices are likely to result in another gloomy week for the Tokyo stock market.

The Nikkei stock average ended last week with a 653.36-point drop on Friday, bringing its losses in the first seven trading days of the year to almost 1,400 points, or 3.7 per cent, as confidence in the market fell and political uncertainties grew.

"A recovery in government bond prices is key to a stock market recovery during the coming week, but there is little hope," said Hiromichi Ishikawa, chief of the securities division at Yamachi Securities Co.

Financial markets in Tokyo were closed today for a national holiday, Coming-of-Age Day.

Ishikawa said the Nikkei index could fall below the 37,000-point level because of the likelihood of further declines in government bonds. On Friday, the index closed at 37,516.77.

Prices of Japanese government bonds, currently the major worry of stock investors, have fallen sharply because of rising interest rates and the low yen, which has remained weak despite repeated intervention by the Bank of Japan, dealers said.

Since the beginning of the year, the price of 10-year bond futures has fallen 4.61 points to 98.50, their lowest level since the Black-Monday market crash in 1987.

Since Jan 4, when trading began this year, the 225-share Nikkei index has risen on two days and fallen five times — a sharp contrast with the end of last year, when the market's key barometer closed at a record high of 38,915.87.

Friday's loss, the largest one-day plunge in the Nikkei average since it fell 731.91 point on Nov 10, 1987, was followed by drops on both the New York and London markets.

While dealers said Friday's decline resulted from the sharp drop in government bond prices, losses earlier in the week were attributed to rumours of instability in the Soviet Union.

"Unless there is good news from the (Japanese) delegation now in the Soviet Union, market performance this week is likely to be similar to last week," Ishikawa said. "The yen will remain weak, and the plunge in government bond prices will not stop any time soon."

Former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and seven other lawmakers from the governing Liberal Democratic Party are currently in Moscow, where Abe met today with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Amid the growing lack of confidence in the market, rumours and remarks from politicians and business leaders are likely to continue having a strong influence on trading, analysts said.

Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said last week that the stock market plunge was not serious because the Nikkei index had only returned to its month-end level.

Takahashi said inflationary pressure in Japan has created a "triple low" phenomenon — a simultaneous decline in securities, yen and government bond prices.

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France urges rapid progress

Move to create bank for E. Europe

PARIS, Jan 15, (Reuters): French President Francois Mitterrand today urged rapid action by 34 nations from East and West meeting in Paris to establish a bank to help rebuild Eastern Europe's shattered economies.

Mitterrand, the driving force behind the scheme, stressed in an inaugural speech to the two-day conference that delegates would have to work fast to keep pace with "historic upheaval" in the once solidly communist half of the continent.

As the shockwaves of revolution rumbled on in the East, he warned that establishment of the bank, with a proposed capital base of \$12 to 18 billion and annual lending capacity of \$3.5 billion, must not be overtaken by events.

"I urge on you a pace, a rhythm that is not traditional in international relations, when one takes one's time. Sometimes we take too much, and events go faster," Mitterrand said.

The West has had scant time in the past 10 weeks to deliberate on the fall of the Berlin Wall, Czechoslovakia's "velvet revolution," Bulgaria's quiet uprising and the violent overthrow of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu in Romania.

The aim of the bank, Mitterrand said, was "to give the people of these numerous countries the means they require to make liberty, democracy and pluralism a reality."

The Paris conference had "few historical precedents," said the French leader. He compared it in scope with the 1944 Bretton Woods talks that created the framework for the post-war international financial system.

Bretton Woods effectively ignored communism's centrally planned economies, but the unprecedented task of the new European Bank for Reconstruction and Development would be to create viable economic systems out of their ruins.

"Your work will not be simple," Mitterrand said. "You will have to go beyond acquired experience and invent the institution best adapted to needs of the Europe of tomorrow and beyond."

The goals are to encourage investment, reduce financial risk, aid transition towards market economies, and accelerate structural reform, he said.

Swiss inflation hits 7-year high

BERN, Jan 15, (UPI): Consumer prices rose 0.7 per cent in December with the year-on-year inflation rate running at a 7-year high of 5.5 per cent, the Federal Statistics Bureau said today.

That was the highest rate since 5.5 per cent in December, 1982, it said. The average inflation rate for 1989 as a whole was 3.9 per cent — relatively enormous compared to 1.9 per cent in 1988, 1.4 per cent in 1987 and only 0.8 per cent in 1986.

Government experts said the jump was to a great extent caused by a 6.2 per cent rise in 1989 in the cost of heating oil.

Various economic institutes have predicted even higher inflation of up to 5.5 per cent for 1990.

Most Asian markets dive

HONG KONG, Jan 15, (Reuters): Asian stock markets today emulated Wall Street's Friday fall though Taiwan's devil-may-care investors bucked the trend and pushed the island's ebullient bourse to a record high.

Hong Kong, Singapore, Sydney and Wellington recorded declines, which brokers linked to New York's 71.46-point plunge. There was no inspiration from Tokyo, the world's biggest stock market, because of the coming of age day holiday.

A Hong Kong broker said: "It's a classic. Hong Kong is following Wall Street down and there's no lead from Tokyo. Tokyo would probably have rebounded had it not been on holiday."

Philippine stocks continued to decline because of coup rumours and fears economic growth is slowing.

But in cash-rich Taiwan's so-called casino market investors ignored negative factors to push the index up 308.44 points to end at 10,867.64. This is a stunning 1,243.46 point gain over the market's 9,624.18 opening on January 4, the first trading day of the year.

Japan's trade surplus drops

However, a potential for increase still exists especially during the new year's wage negotiations. According to the Bank of Japan, half-point increase in the official discount rate to 4.25 per cent can be seen as a pre-emptive anti-inflation move although external factors undeniably played a large role.

Japan's trade surplus fell for the ninth consecutive month this year to \$4.49 billion in November, 41 per cent lower than a year earlier. The current account also declined helped by Japan's increased "imports" of overseas tourism. The trend for a shrinking surplus is expected to continue.

W. Germany

The W. German economy is ending the year on a strong note, albeit slightly slower than a few months back. Industry orders in October and November gained 7.4 per cent over the year earlier period but fell 2 per cent from

unprecedented task of the new European Bank for Reconstruction and Development would be to create viable economic systems out of their ruins.

"Your work will not be simple," Mitterrand said. "You will have to go beyond acquired experience and invent the institution best adapted to needs of the Europe of tomorrow and beyond."

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Swiss inflation hits 7-year high

BERN, Jan 15, (UPI): Consumer prices rose 0.7 per cent in December with the year-on-year inflation rate running at a 7-year high of 5.5 per cent, the Federal Statistics Bureau said today.

That was the highest rate since 5.5 per cent in December, 1982, it said. The average inflation rate for 1989 as a whole was 3.9 per cent — relatively enormous compared to 1.9 per cent in 1988, 1.4 per cent in 1987 and only 0.8 per cent in 1986.

Government experts said the jump was to a great extent caused by a 6.2 per cent rise in 1989 in the cost of heating oil.

Various economic institutes have predicted even higher inflation of up to 5.5 per cent for 1990.

Most Asian markets dive

HONG KONG, Jan 15, (Reuters): Asian stock markets today emulated Wall Street's Friday fall though Taiwan's devil-may-care investors bucked the trend and pushed the island's ebullient bourse to a record high.

Hong Kong, Singapore, Sydney and Wellington recorded declines, which brokers linked to New York's 71.46-point plunge. There was no inspiration from Tokyo, the world's biggest stock market, because of the coming of age day holiday.

A Hong Kong broker said: "It's a classic. Hong Kong is following Wall Street down and there's no lead from Tokyo. Tokyo would probably have rebounded had it not been on holiday."

Philippine stocks continued to decline because of coup rumours and fears economic growth is slowing.

But in cash-rich Taiwan's so-called casino market investors ignored negative factors to push the index up 308.44 points to end at 10,867.64. This is a stunning 1,243.46 point gain over the market's 9,624.18 opening on January 4, the first trading day of the year.

Japan's trade surplus drops

However, a potential for increase still exists especially during the new year's wage negotiations. According to the Bank of Japan, half-point increase in the official discount rate to 4.25 per cent can be seen as a pre-emptive anti-inflation move although external factors undeniably played a large role.

Japan's trade surplus fell for the ninth consecutive month this year to \$4.49 billion in November, 41 per cent lower than a year earlier. The current account also declined helped by Japan's increased "imports" of overseas tourism. The trend for a shrinking surplus is expected to continue.

W. Germany

The W. German economy is ending the year on a strong note, albeit slightly slower than a few months back. Industry orders in October and November gained 7.4 per cent over the year earlier period but fell 2 per cent from

attributed to rumours of instability in the Soviet Union.

"Unless there is good news from the (Japanese) delegation now in the Soviet Union, market performance this week is likely to be similar to last week," Ishikawa said. "The yen will remain weak, and the plunge in government bond prices will not stop any time soon."

Former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and seven other lawmakers from the governing Liberal Democratic Party are currently in Moscow, where Abe met today with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Amid the growing lack of confidence in the market, rumours and remarks from politicians and business leaders are likely to continue having a strong influence on trading, analysts said.

Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said last week that the stock market plunge was not serious because the Nikkei index had only returned to its month-end level.

Takahashi said inflationary pressure in Japan has created a "triple low" phenomenon — a simultaneous decline in securities, yen and government bond prices.

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Power show generates more Gulf business

TRADE enquiries from throughout the Gulf have been generated at Middle East Electricity '90 — the established showcase for the region's power industry. A Czech company has reported it is on the verge of a long-awaited breakthrough into the Omani market, a show newcomer is processing a serious enquiry from Dubai, while an American firm is putting the final touches to a valuable long-term contract for Saudi Arabia.

Swissgear specialists, ZSE Praha, Czechoslovakia's sole exhibitor at the show, has been contacted by two leading Omani engineering concerns, one in Muscat, the other in Rovi — who are both interested in using its products.

"We have been trying to get into the Omani market for sometime," said ZSE's export manager Josef Prochazka. "However, until now, we have not had any success. We are very hopeful that the contacts we have made with the two Omani companies will result in orders and give us a foothold in another Gulf state."

ZSE Praha opened an office in Abu Dhabi just four months after winning several contracts locally. It has recently pre-qualified for a tender to supply the Dubai Electricity Department with 180 megawatts of 6.6 kV switchgear and 110 kV circuit breakers for the Sharjah Water and Electricity Department's tender for 30 switchgear panels.

Meanwhile, Gulf Metal Craft, a firm which set up in the Jebel Ali Free Zone near Dubai just two months ago, announced it is processing a major enquiry to supply service cabinets to Doha.

"We received the enquiry just hours after the show opened," said general manager, Wilhelms Niederhauser. "It is particularly good for us because we have only recently set up in the Gulf."

Gulf Metal Craft began operating out of the Free Zone last November producing sheet metal enclosures. It now employs 25 people.

A subsidiary of ESW-Vienna, Austria's largest enclosure manufacturer, it took the decision to base its operation in Jebel Ali because shipments of the finished product from Vienna resulted in high freight costs.

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Components to play key role

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has opened the Rolls-Royce Advanced Ceramics Centre at the University of Warwick in the English Midlands.

The Advanced Ceramics Centre has been established by Rolls-Royce to develop new materials technology based on ceramics, which will be utilised in future gas turbine engines.

EVENTS

Thuraya contributes to cultural awareness

THURAYA Al Bakhamsi, painter, illustrator and writer is an artist whose work revolves around the evocative central theme of the changing role of Arab women. Using several different mediums, Thuraya's work is striking and unusual. She professes a fascination for primitive folklore, and oriental and African imagery and symbolism reappear in drawings and paintings. It is a subject learned first-hand. The young artist is married to a former diplomat and has lived for several years in such far-flung places as Zaire, Senegal and Moscow.

"I feel that travel is very important for artists," she comments. "They should not wait for government recognition or aid but promote their work abroad, wherever possible, and participate in international exhibitions."

As a creative stimulus, travelling is similarly vital, she explains — although sacrifices may have to be made. Having just returned to Kuwait and her young family from a three month tour, this subject was clearly close to the heart. Notwithstanding, the rewards were plentiful.

"I toured so many galleries and exhibitions that now I am full of ideas, all I need are canvases and paint!"

One of the countries visited was Switzerland where Thuraya held a solo exhibition comprising thirty-three paintings with the theme the 'Oriental Woman' and the beauty of nature as seen through their eyes. Traditional aspects of Kuwaiti life were also subtly incorporated into many of her exhibited works.

"I am very attracted to the cultural heritage of my country and use many ethnic motifs, such as those found in jewellery, clothes and furniture."

Although Thuraya considers her family upbringing to be fairly traditional, the love of art was instigated and encouraged by her parents at a young age.

"My sister and I had our own studio at home before we were twelve years old..."

Creative talent is clearly in this artist's blood, her late grandfather was well-known Kuwaiti architect, Ahmed Abdul Haleem

Al Bana, responsible for some of the country's finest old buildings, including the Dickson House on the sea front.

"All my family are artists in one way or another..."

Thuraya studied at the Fine Arts College in Cairo and completed her Masters Degree in Graphic Design and Illustration at Surikove Arts Institute in Moscow. She prefers to work with watercolour or acrylic. "I find oil a very heavy medium — I can't breathe. Maybe it's because I am Pisces..."

The seven years spent in the USSR left their stamp in other ways, she explains.

"Although I am Muslim I was fascinated by the religious icons, I think they are marvellous and not dissimilar from the Islamic miniatures from Iran. As a painter you can obtain something lasting from all these countries..."

More recently, Thuraya has added a new dimension to her art; that of printing and drawing on silk and ceramic ware. She also engraves in acrylic and ink and has held several workshops and classes. These have proved particularly popular with Kuwaiti women who gain the unique sense of personal satisfaction that comes from creative pursuits. Arab women can also obviously relate vividly to much of Thuraya's work which subtly portrays their far-reaching influence in society. Several of her students have revealed exceptional talents, and one young Kuwaiti teenager, recently held a solo exhibition of her silk paintings at Kuwait's Ghadir Gallery.

This centrally located gallery is owned by the artist and is the venue of some of the country's most singularly unusual and interesting exhibitions. At the time of our visit, the artist was hosting an upcoming exhibition featuring C17 and C18 watercolour paintings of the Arabian Gulf and Lebanon. Past exhibits have included European antiques, lithographs, African art and children's illustrations.

The latter is likewise another Bakhamsi speciality. She has illustrated several books for children and again, stresses to The Kuwaiti Diar, how important it is that local artists exhibit

abroad, even if it is at their own expense.

"This summer I participated in an international exhibition of children's illustrations held in Czechoslovakia where three hundred and fifty artists from forty-eight countries contributed more than 1,000 illustrations. I represented Kuwait and paid all the associated costs involved. However, it was well worth the money as I had many valuable contacts and have since been commissioned by a London publisher for book illustrations."

On the local front, Thuraya has used her illustration skills to paint a number of brightly coloured murals in several children's hospital wards.

Thuraya Bakhamsi is also an author in her own right. She has written several short stories and books, including The Black Sweat (1976) and the Free Art Gallery of Kuwait in 25 years (1986). Her latest collection of short stories, entitled Al Sidra, was published last year.

Aside from all the above, the artist is an active member of an organisation called 'Friends of Gulf Art' which consists of

approximately twenty artists from the GCC countries.

"Although we are sometimes invited by governments, overall we are a self-supporting group," comments Thuraya. "To date, we have participated in thirteen exhibitions held all over the world, including Bonn, Cairo, Jordan and Madrid. Our next exhibition is planned for February in Washington D.C."

"I like the fact that we are independent. We travel with our paintings, produce our own catalogues and even distribute a monthly bulletin. There is also a spirit of camaraderie and healthy competition between us as fellow artists."

Thuraya Al Bakhamsi has contributed to culture and art, not only in her own country, but throughout the Arab world. In 1987 she participated in the activities of the first Gallery of Oil Paintings in Qatar, and the following year played a prominent role at the Festival for Formative Arts, held in Baghdad. She also received the coveted gold 'Palm Leaf' prize in Saudi Arabia in recognition of her considerable artistic talent and achievements.



Thuraya Al Bakhamsi

"There is so much creative talent in Kuwait. If nothing else, I hope that I can encourage others to discover and share with me a love and appreciation of art, and the important cultural role it plays in our society and in the development of mankind, overall..."



CINEMA

Al Andalus
Arabic film
Sahmiah
Arabic film
Al Hamra
Someone to Watch over Me
Drive-In
Revenge of Nerds II
Al Firdous
Malmaal
Al Jahra
Rajlakhi Srikanth
Granada
License to Kill
Salaikhhat
Man on Fire
Jeeb
Lakhi Badhu
Ahmadi Drive-In
Arabic film

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Shaah Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem Street
Al Qail Pharmacy
Al Mubarakia
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Andalus Pharmacy
Tunis Street
Salmiya and Rumaidhiya
Al Shefa Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak Street
Fahad and Ahmadi
Al Wafa Pharmacy
Al Fahad
Kheitan
Al Wehda Pharmacy
The Main Street
Jahra
Al Khaled Pharmacy
Opposite to the Jahra Co-operative Society

Sharon Waugh

SHARON Waugh, the wife of the Third Secretary and Vice Consul of the Canadian embassy, Roo Waugh, will arrive in Kuwait today on a social visit.

PRAYERS

| | |
|---------|---------|
| Fajr | 5.20 am |
| Zohr | 11.58 |
| Asr | 2.53 pm |
| Maghreb | 5.12 |
| Isha | 6.33 |

TELEVISION PROGRAMME

KTV 1

MORNING PERIOD
9.30 Opening and Holy Quran
9.40 Sabab Al Kher News
9.50 Cartoon serial
10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)
10.30 Shua Min Al Madhi: Arabic serial (part 1), starring Mohammed Redha, Zahrat Al Olla, Nasreen and Mahmoud Al Jondi
11.45 Challenges: foreign cultural programme (part 3)
12.25 News summary
12.30 Sabab Al Kher news
12.35 Holy Quran and closedown

EVENING PERIOD

4.00 Opening and Holy Quran
4.15 The World Today via Satellite
4.45 Beteen: cartoon serial
5.15 The World of Tomorrow: cultural serial
5.45 Night chemists, air-locks and official advertisements
6.00 Imam Mohammed Abdoh: historical serial (Final part)
6.45 Varieties
7.00 Our Children and The Future: local cultural programme (part 3) prepared and presented by Dr Mohammed Redha
8.00 Made in Kuwait: Information programme, prepared and presented by Dr Ali Al Damkhi
8.30 Good Evening and Local News
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Ghadan Tushroq Al Shams: Arabic serial
10.45 Al Burka: Arabic weekly serial (part 3), starring Rashed Assaf, Fadeya Khatat, and Waha Al Rehah
11.45 News summary
11.50 The World Today via Satellite

KTV 2

6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
6.10 Diplodoc. A cartoon series for children
6.30 Dartmoor. "Summer". A look at summer people spend their vacations particularly in areas where rivers exist...
7.00 Peaceable Kingdom
8.00 News in English
8.30 You and the Law
8.45 Cornog of Age. "All I Want Was a New Car". Dick has retired as a pilot and planned to live lonely away from any social activity. His wife urges him to be more sociable.
9.15 The Story of Hollywood. "The Dream Factory". The dramatic rise of the studio system and its stronghold on the business. A penetrating portrait of the Mongols whose abuse led to its crushing downfall.
10.00 The Twilight Zone. "Extra Innings". A baseball player runs away from his wife's critical attitude. He finds himself the best player all over the country.
10.30 The Silk Route of the Sea. "Happy Arabia". A special programme on Yemen on the silk route where it played a historical role... it's people's traditions and means of living.
11.30 A Man Called Hawk. "Choice of Chance". Two criminals enter a house by mistake and start killing its residents. Hawk is compelled to interfere...
12.15 News in Brief
12.30 Magazine D'Actualite

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Photography and Oil painting classes

OIL painting classes beginning 15 January.
Photography classes beginning 16 and 17 January.

8 week course, once a week 4:30 to 7:30 pm. For further details please call Ann Eid Tel: 2426135 or Yasmeen 5326833.

Seminar

The seminar at the DAA, on Arabic and European Art to The Light of Zodiacal Symbolism has been postponed. It will be given during the period Feb 11 - March 11, 1990. Morning sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 - 12.30 am or evening sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 6.00 - 7.30 pm. Registration may be done by phoning the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah, Tel: 2430826, 2453259.

Iraqi ceramics

AN exhibition of Iraqi ceramics is currently being held at the Hunting and Equestrian Club. The exhibition will be opened everyday until January 26 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Lecture

FRED Gettings will give a public lecture on "Islamic and European Horoscopes". The lecture will be held on Wednesday, 17th January, 1990 at 6:00 pm at the Kuwait

National Museum lecture

theatre. The lecture, which is in English is open to all. MDAI

SOCIAL

Goan Community Society

NEXT Friday January 19, will witness the birth of Goan Society Forum in Kuwait at a gathering of Goans at the Indian Embassy Auditorium at 10.30 morning.

The co-ordination committee invites all Goans here to attend this unique community get-together where every Goan village will have its nominee selected as representative of the Goan community in Kuwait.

It will be recalled that for some time Goans have been meeting and the idea of forming a larger Goan community representation was mooted at the last meeting held at the Embassy Auditorium. The purpose of forming the Society is to take up community welfare programmes jointly. This Forum at village level is being constituted for the first time and it is expected that Goans will respond spontaneously.

Ramada Al Salam

GRAND Indian Food Festival from January 21-26. Display stalls open to Indian companies and individuals. Contact Clifton or Siddiq oo 4835344.

Folk songs

"A CULTURAL" and "A SONGS" are the titles of two albums of folk songs and dances of Bangladesh, organized by Nurjahan cultural group will be presented at the auditorium of Sharq Co-operative on Jan 19 at 6 pm.

K.M. Shehabuddin, the ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in Kuwait, has kindly consented to grace the occasion as the chief guest.

For details please contact: Mahe Alam 4315692 Salam 4330416, Jaioal 2420711, 2409987, Mamnan 4317223.

SAAZ aur Aawaz

SAAZ aur Aawaz which is one of the leading Indian musical groups with complete orchestra presents their fourth musical programme entitled "Bhule Bise Gae" covering hit songs of yesteryears at the Indian Arts Circle, Funaitees oo Friday, Feb 2, 1990 at 6 pm. There will also be lucky draw prizes. For Passes call 3985456/3610224/5638026 after 9 pm.

Ballet

STEPS Ballet School commences its new term. Jan 1990 registration is now open. Sat-Wed in the Kuwait English School, Salwa from 3-7 pm. Call 5386481 between 9-12 noon for more information. (For girls only 4-15 years).

The Carnival Nite

"THE" Entertainers' Association is pleased to announce Menio de Bandar's "Soussarant Astana Diat" a Konkani play which will be held in the Indian Arts Circle (Funaitees) oo the 16th of February 1990. The cast all from Goa includes M. Boyer, Felcy, Josephine, Betty Alvares, Tita, Junior Rod, Carlos, Rosario Dias, C. D'Silva, John de Parra and Menio de Bandar.

Kuwait Little Theatre

Kuwait Little Theatre, Ahmadi, are holding auditions for a comedy to be staged in the theatre in early March and directed by Dave Dorrington. The auditions will be held in the Theatre on 21 and 22 January at 8 pm. All those interested in auditioning are welcome. Those interested in helping backstage are also welcome to attend.

Caledonian Society

The Annual Burns Night Supper will be held at Messiah Beach Hotel on Thursday, February 1st. For further information and ticket reservation phone: 5335082, 5332235 or 3727691 ext. 253.

Raga Sharqi

INTENSIVE courses (January and February) in the classical dance form, Raga Sharqi. For details call 4836021.

Konkani Drama

THE New Goans Overseas Association is pleased to announce Menio de Bandar's "Soussarant Astana Diat" a Konkani play which will be held in the Indian Arts Circle (Funaitees) oo the 16th of February 1990. The cast all from Goa includes M. Boyer, Felcy, Josephine, Betty Alvares, Tita, Junior Rod, Carlos, Rosario Dias, C. D'Silva, John de Parra and Menio de Bandar.

Like a Hurricane

SEVENTH Sky's upcoming Rock concert at Al Andalus cinema on 15th & 16th February, 1990. We are looking for voluntary helpers and also a additional male & female vocalist. Ring 5748476 or 2543219.

Kalpak's Drama Competition

KERALA Arts and Literature Promotion Association of Kuwait (Kalpak) is conducting a Malayalam One Act Play Competition at Indian Arts Circle oo 9th February 1990.

Kuwait Singers

THE Kuwait Singers will begin rehearsals for its May concert on Monday, January 22, at 7.30 pm at the Gulf English School, Salwa. New members are most welcome. For more information contact 4884134 or 3900922.

British Council

Return to Oz: Wednesday, 17 January at 6.00 pm. Thursday, 18 January at 10.30 am, 10.55 min.

Return to the Land where the adventure began, Dorothy finds herself back in the land of her dreams and makes delightful new friends (Tik Tok, Jack Pumpkinhead and the Gump) and dangerous new enemies (creaky Wheelers, head-hunting Princess Mombi and the evil Nome King). Amazing surprises to every twist in the yellow brick road.

Trivm Centre

"TIVIM Centre is pleased to announce their 3rd Annual 9-a-side Inter Village Football Tournament which will be held on the Sour grounds, Kuwait City, beginning March 27/28th 1990. For further information please contact organisers — 2441860 Casmiro."

SPORTS

Now at the MBH Sports Centre

Life saving course, with Royal Life Saving Society Coach, Grade 1 Examiner will be commencing shortly. Ergocycle Fitness Computer tests and courses now available at Messiah.

Shutlo Cup

KUWAIT Cricket League is organising a cricket match between the teams of Indian and Pakistani veterans living in Kuwait, at K.C.L. ground on 2nd February 1990. The match will start at 9 am.

Kuwait Cricket takes this opportunity and announce that a lucky draw will be held with at least fifty prizes which includes colour TV, VCR, sewing machine, watches, cameras and many more household items are waiting for the winners.

Mitsubishi table tennis

The Mitsubishi table tennis tournament for ladies, gents and mixed doubles at the IAC badminton hall oo Fri 19th Jan starting at 9.00 am. Finals of last weeks junior boys singles and doubles will also be held along with the prize giving ceremonies for all events (including junior girls). All members, their families and guests interested in participating please call IAC (3904817 after 7 pm), or Jagdish at 2433552, or Sharma at 2644863 for entry passes and details.

Hobby centre

A NEW 8 week course in Jewellery and Design making — For more details call:- Telephone: 5618847 or 5317354.

Bingo games

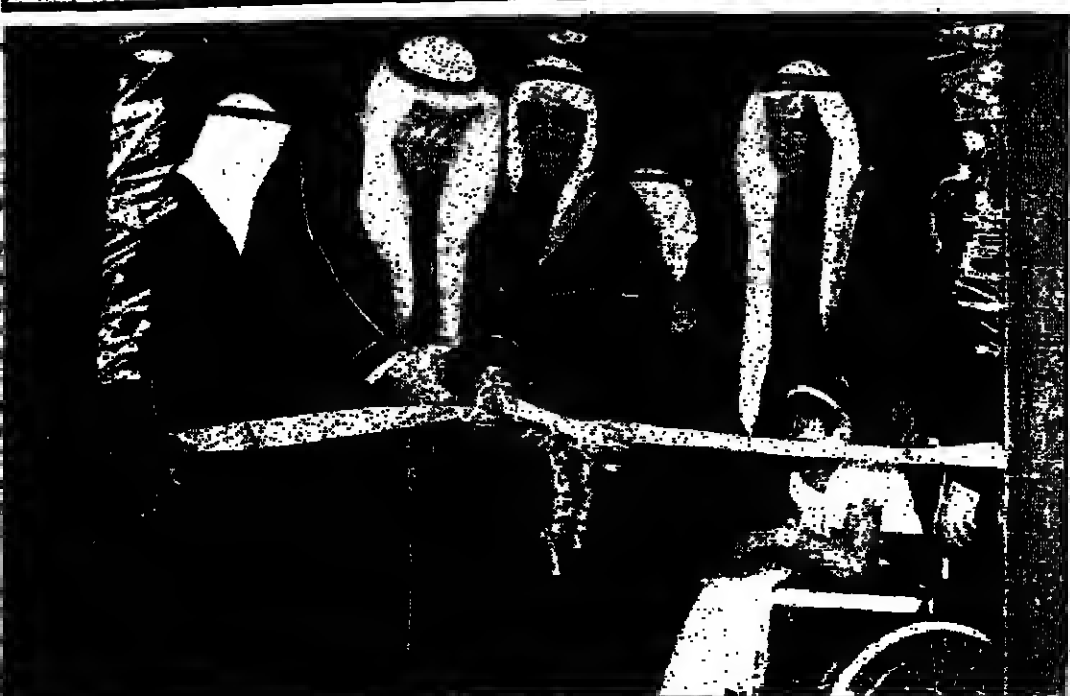
AN invitation is extended to anybody who would like to join our Bingo games and dinner buffet oo January 18, 6.00 pm, at the Sunrise Pinoy Restaurant-Fahad. Dinner will start at 9.00 pm. Bingo cards will be given upon entry. Come and join us and share the fun. For queries: 3918884.

Danielle Dart Tournament 1990

The Dart Tournament for Dames will take place at the Gazette Club oo Friday, Jan 26, starting at 2 pm (expected to finish at 8 pm). It is a family event featuring separate junior tournament, so don't leave the children at home. For further details and registration, please call Henrik Licht — 3727688 ext 246; or Bjarne Rasmussen — 3720137 before Saturday, Jan 20.

All entries for the What's On Column can be sent by

telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered dolly, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

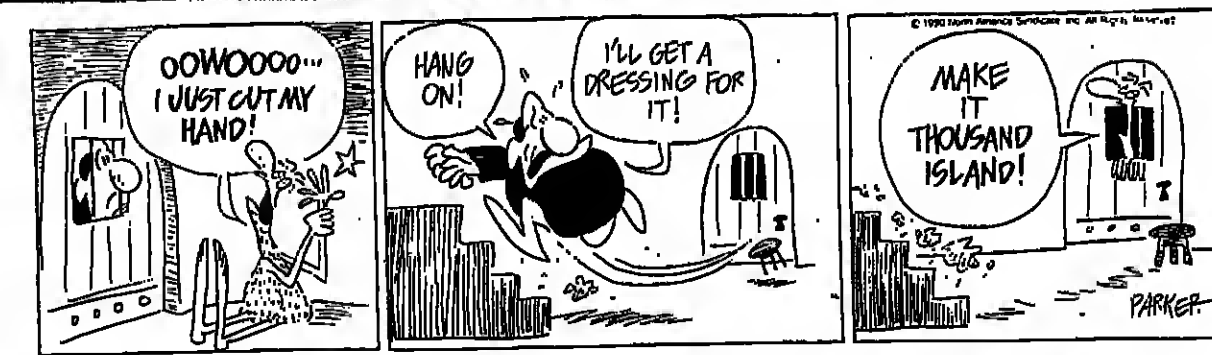
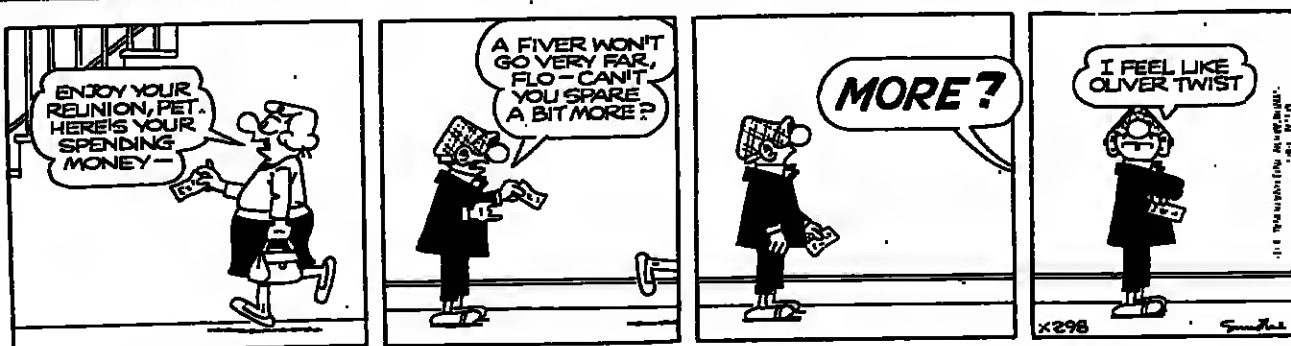
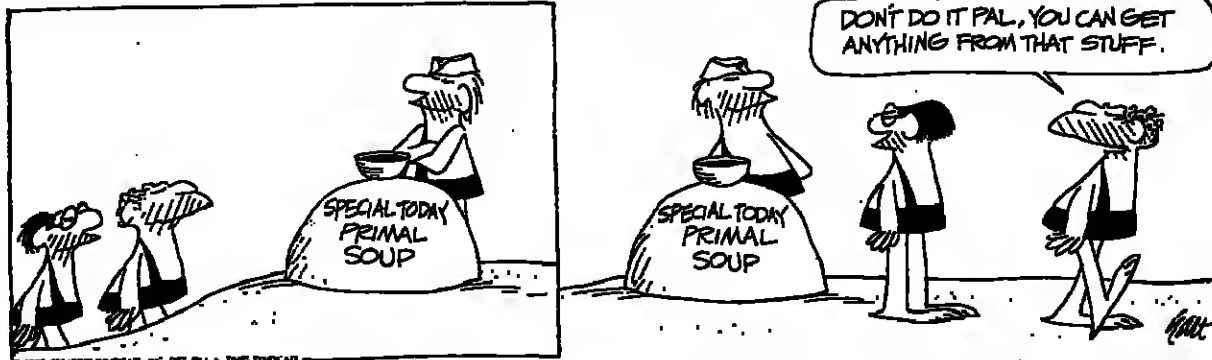
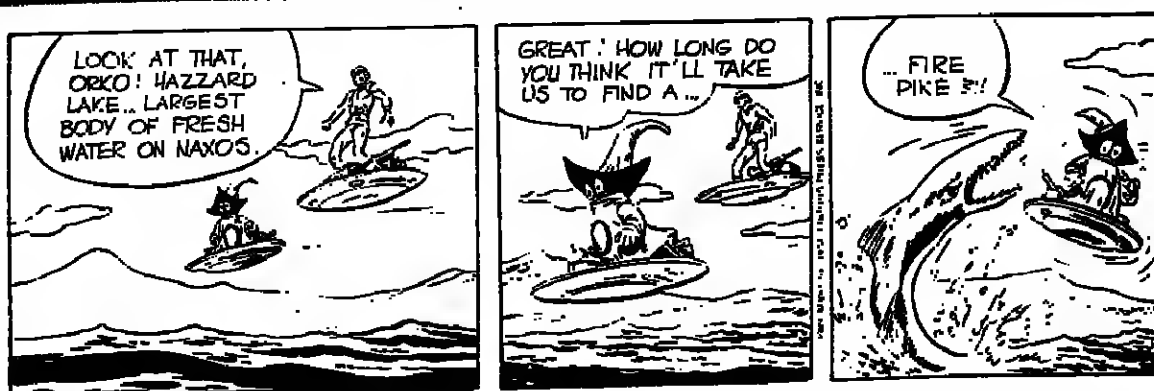
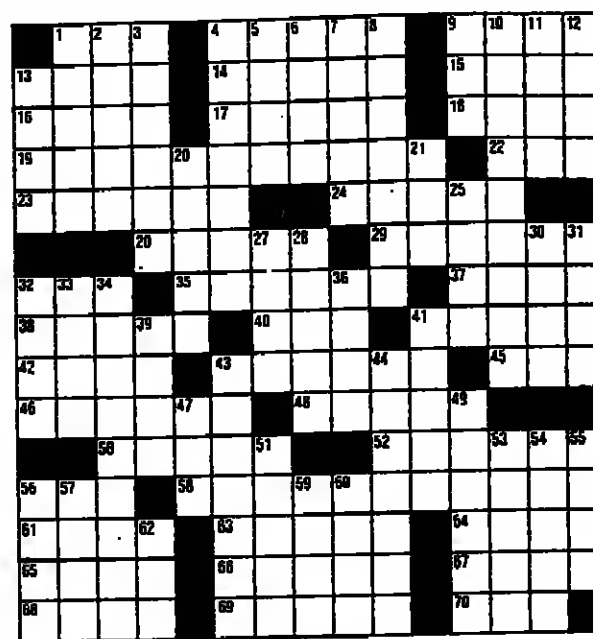


MINISTER of Social Affairs and Labour, Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmad Al Sabah patronised the opening of the twelfth charity bazaar of the Kuwait Handicapped Society at the society's headquarters last week.

The opening ceremony was attended by Jahra governor, Sheikh Ali Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah, the Minister of Education, Anwar Al Nouri, Arab and foreign ambassadors in Kuwait and a number of society officials.

Sheikh Nasser praised efforts exerted by society members and workers for their effective role in serving the society, particularly in the handicapped field. The charity bazaar included several handicrafts and accessories and a special corner to exhibit old and traditional Kuwaiti

furniture. The bazaar yields will be allocated for establishing another handicapped care centre in Jahra.

BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake**HAGAR THE HORRIBLE** — By Dik Browne**AGATHA CRUM** — By Sam Moser**BEETLE BAILEY** — By Mort Walker**THE WIZARD OF ID** — By Brent Parker & Johnny Hart**ANDY CAPP****B.C.** — By Johnny Hart**HE-MAN** — By G. Forton & J. Shuff**TODAY'S CROSSWORD**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Farm father
 - 2 Ballet movements
 - 3 Do the backstroke
 - 4 Costa
 - 5 Brilliant
 - 6 Holiday tree
 - 7 Repe.
 - 8 Care of "Fame"
 - 9 One of Bill Murray's crew
 - 10 Oily fish
 - 11 Brook
 - 12 Deep cut
 - 13 Gaudi's country
 - 14 Engraves, in a way
 - 15 Promos
 - 16 Ingratiate
 - 17 Emanation
 - 18 Handled
 - 19 Home site
 - 20 Capital of County Clare
 - 21 Actor Jannings
 - 22 Unit of fitness for slk
 - 23 Casual shirt
 - 24 "And what is as a day...?"
 - 25 Toss about
 - 26 Unfit
 - 27 One way to go on a crossword
 - 28 Popular sandwich, for short
 - 29 Witches' transports
 - 30 Latvian capital
 - 31 Chou
 - 32 Blend
 - 33 Collage grad.
 - 34 Beer mug
 - 35 Perfect ones
 - 36 Strong tasting
- DOWN**
- 1 Correct
 - 2 Thesplan
 - 3 Throng
 - 4 Actor Ron
 - 5 Light shade
 - 6 Pub orders
 - 7 Emulates Rover
 - 8 Pittsburgh player
 - 9 Dieter's hideaway
 - 10 Persecution, of sorts
 - 11 "— the Woods"
 - 12 Margaret, the anthropologist
 - 13 "From — to riches"
 - 14 Recorded
 - 15 Squealer
 - 16 Feruse
 - 17 At liberty
 - 18 Bright lights
 - 19 Part of HOMES
 - 20 Envelope enc.
 - 21 Pilots
 - 22 Major —
 - 23 Adhesive
 - 24 Fighting
 - 25 Vigor
 - 26 Construct
 - 27 Sadden
 - 28 Rubbing out
 - 29 Johnny —
 - 30 Watch holders
 - 31 The Lone Ranger's companion
 - 32 Singing group
 - 33 Pelts
 - 34 Parts of the Sov. Union
 - 35 Blow one's own horn
 - 36 Actress Lee
 - 37 Butter alternative
 - 38 Principal
 - 39 Carter or Irving

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ESME OMANNI GOAL
DEAN FARADILPE
DAYSDEFINE TEEN
STALKS ANCHORS
ARENA TIRA
ELEVATOR IAMBUS
PORE TIFTS ATT
TOD TURKEYS LIE
CES ANEAR MILE
SNEAKS RATIONED
REP ALLARD
KIMONDS PERSIA
ITEM KNOWITALLS
LENA FEFER GIST
LAIDS NEEDS ETALS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

SQUANDER WISELY

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
 ♠ Q 10 9 5
 ♥ Q 8 5
 ♦ 10 3 2
 ♣ 9 6 4

WEST
 ♠ 7 3 2
 ♥ K J
 ♦ A 9 8 7
 ♣ A K J 3

EAST
 ♠ J 6 4
 ♥ A 10 9 6 4 2
 ♦ 4
 ♣ 8 7 5

SOUTH
 ♠ A K 8
 ♥ 7 3
 ♦ K Q J 6 5
 ♣ Q 10 2

The bidding:
 South West North East
 1 NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

At major events, it is usually the high hands that capture attention. However, even one-level contracts can be dramatic, as this deal from the recent Fall North American Championships illustrates.

Note West's decision to pass South's one no trump opening bid. In the modern style a double would show the sort of hand with which you would expect to defeat the contract—a good, long suit with an entry or two, not just an arbitrary count.

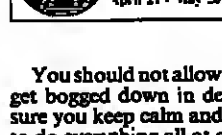
East-West were New Yorkers Adam Wildavsky and Victor King. King's opening lead of the king of clubs asked partner to unblock if he held the queen or jack, or to give count if he had neither by starting an echo with an even number of cards or playing up the line with an odd number. Wildavsky, therefore, followed with the three, which marked declarer with three clubs headed by the queen.

To learn more about the hand, West now underled the ace of diamonds. When declarer won the jack and continued with a low diamond toward the ten, West took the ace. East signaled vigorously in hearts, so West shifted to the king of that suit and continued with the jack. Declarer played low from dummy and we know many defenders who would have ducked reflexively. But East realized he had no entry to his hearts, so he put his ace to good use. He overtook his partner's jack and reverted to a club. That allowed the defenders to collect four club tricks, two hearts and the ace of diamonds for a one-trick set. That was necessary to prevent a larger loss, since at the other table East-West played in a heart partial, losing four tricks when declarer misguessed the queen of trumps.

**YOUR STARS**

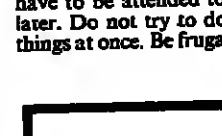
Aries
 March 21 - April 20

Others will rely on you and you should not let them down. Make sure you do not neglect your appearance. You will tire more easily so do the most urgent things first. Be helpful.



Taurus
 April 21 - May 20

You should not allow yourself to get bogged down in detail. Make sure you keep calm and do not try to do everything all at once. Pay a little more attention to your health. Be loyal.



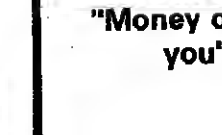
Gemini
 May 21 - June 20

You are liable to try to avoid unpleasant matters but they will have to be attended to sooner or later. Do not try to do too many things at once. Be frugal.



Cancer
 June 21 - July 20

If you have made a promise, be sure to keep it. Your lucky numbers are 20 and 34. You should make sure you do not let others down. Do not stay too long if you are invited. Be reliable.



Leo
 July 21 - Aug 20

There will be a certain amount of tension but if you keep calm, you will be able to resolve it. Make sure you do not break any limits of speed or safety. Do not allow your emotions to get out of hand. Be frank.



Virgo
 Aug 21 - Sept 20

Start out a little earlier if you want to be sure of arriving on time. You should not dwell upon the past nor always think of what is coming next: live more in the present. Do not try to take more than you give in return. Be inoffensive.

Libra
 Sept 21 - Oct 20

Since you will not have time to do all you would like to do, concentrate on doing what is important first. Your intuitive powers are likely to let you down, so do not rely on them. Take care about what you eat. Be polite.

Scorpio
 Oct 21 - Nov 20

You will meet someone very much to your liking but do not give away too much too soon. Something you had feared might happen will but it will not be as bad as you had anticipated. You should think again before making up your mind, but do not dither. Be tactful.

Capricorn
 Dec 21 - Jan 19

Everything will take just that much longer so do not waste any time. Make sure you do not leave any doors or windows open and look after your valuables too. Try to ensure you do not lose sight of your objectives. Be sensible.

Aquarius
 Jan 20 - Feb 19

You will have enough energy to do what has to be done, but none to spare. And you should also beware of dwelling too much on secondary matters. Avoid spending on impulse or being extravagant. Be realistic.

Pisces
 Feb 20 - March 20

You will tend towards nervousness and should do all you can to calm yourself. You will have a better grasp of something you are still in the process of learning. Do not allow work to ruin your private life. Be truthful.

Sagittarius
 Nov 21 - Dec 20

You will be able to do something you had not thought possible. Place less reliance upon others, more upon yourself. Have the courage of your convictions. Be shrewd.

Mars
 Dec 21 - Jan 19

You will be able to do something you had not thought possible. Place less reliance upon others, more upon yourself. Have the courage of your convictions. Be shrewd.

Jupiter
 Jan 20 - Feb 19

You will be able to do something you had not thought possible. Place less reliance upon others, more upon yourself. Have the courage of your convictions. Be shrewd.

Saturn
 Feb 20 - March 20

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Omar's main drawback is his passion for gambling

Sharif is anything but the playboy he's made out to be

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, (UPI): His dark, wet eyes on the big screen — the provocateurs of so many fantasies — have given scores of women the vapours in darkened movie theatres around the world for three decades.

Yet the sexy Egyptian, who rode a camel across the desert and into international fame with his starring role in "Lawrence of Arabia" in 1963, insists he is not the playboy he is made out to be.

And it appears Omar Sharif is definitely not in love, at least at the moment, or he likely wouldn't be travelling to Atlantic City, N. J., from his home in Paris next month to indulge in his real passion: gambling.

That passion has parted Sharif, 57, from a good chunk of his wages over the years. He admits he is not a "reasonable" man once he succumbs to the clink and jangle of the siren casinos.

But for the "lonely" man who has been divorced for 20 years from Arab film star Faten Hamama and who often lives out of hotel rooms, playing the cards or the dice helps to pass the time.

"It's the boredom that drives me to do it really, to go and gamble," said Sharif during a telephone interview from Paris. "It provides me with sort of concentrated thrills for a few hours."

"I've never gambled if I was in love or if I was doing something exciting," he said. "My problem is I don't gamble often but I gamble very recklessly."

Sharif, who cemented his niche in cinema history with his roles in Dr. Zhivago and Funny Girl, will throw caution to the winds and be host to Atlantic City's richest baccarat tournament Feb. 23-25 at the Showboat Hotel casino.

The \$300,000 tournament is expected to

draw 100 of the world's top players to Showboat, which is congratulating itself on luring Sharif, considered a skilled gamesman, to the high-stakes event.

Sharif, will return to the Showboat in the spring to revel in another of his passions — bridge. The winner of many national and international bridge events, Sharif will be host of and play in a \$200,000 individual bridge tournament May 6-9.

The celluloid hero has plenty of gambling tales to tell, such as the time he spent three weeks shooting a television film titled "Pleasure Palace," in a Las Vegas casino.

"I was at the dice tables all the time between shoots," Sharif said. "I lost exactly the sum of money that I was being paid for the film. It was \$450,000. I introduced the producer to the (casino) cashier. In other words, the money never even transited my bank account."

Sharif did pocket a big win, though, once, in Italy in 1966, when he tallied \$1 million in 20 minutes at a roulette table.

"I was quite intoxicated with drink," Sharif said. "Some girl had let me down and I was furious. Out of sheer spite I just went and threw all my money on the roulette table and it kept coming up a number I never played."

That number was 29 — "I still hate it," he said. Sharif's favourite numbers all have fours and seven in them. His favourite game is craps because "it's the only game you can really yell and scream out."

In one breath Sharif insisted he no longer gambles, but in the next he contradicts himself.

"Whenever I have some money in the bank I go and have one exotic night and then I regret it for the rest of the year," Sharif said. "I call my agent and say 'you have to get me a work.'"

About women, Sharif said he has not had a steady paramour in 20 years, but acknowledged that being a sex symbol carries some burdens.

"I've had in my life less girlfriends than any other guy I know," he said. "It's just because I'm a bachelor. I go out now and then with a girl because you can't live your life without a girl, and they make a romance out of it but most often it's not like that."

Sharif said he is "scared" of commitments and believes people "fling themselves too easily into relationships." He adores courting and that's probably why he doesn't want to live with a woman on a regular basis.

About his film career, three years ago Sharif overcame what he calls "anastrophe," a mid-life crisis when producers and directors did not know what to do with him as he aged, and he did not know what to do with himself.

Once the star of epics, Sharif also had difficulty finding roles when hip directors began making films with social or political messages. The focus of those films was smaller, more pointed, and had little use for a foreigner, he said.

"I did get lost in the shuffle," Sharif said. Time marched on, Sharif greyed and wrinkled enough to play old men and the crisis passed. The great leading man is now happy being a character actor in quality productions.

Sharif recently completed an Egyptian film, El Aragouz, or "The Puppet."

It is a serious film dealing with the overcrowding of his native country and the expansion of cities at the expense of the country's agrarian way of life. Problems he feels very strongly about.

"Egypt is leaving on foreign aid, really," he said. "We are just beggars now."



Avoid oily, fatty foods, sugar, salt, which lead to greasy hair.



Hair should be washed every day for a shiny look.

Adequate exercise is necessary

Hair needs constant care, diet too

HEALTHY hair depends on constant care, a good diet and the good circulation in the scalp that can only be achieved by adequate exercise. After that the condition of your hair will depend on things beyond your control, such as whether you have naturally dry or oily hair or your age.

Teenagers: Most teenagers go through a lot of stress studying for exams and worrying about their future. Stress coupled with the hormonal changes can cause the sebaceous glands to go haywire, over-producing oil which floods the hair shaft and leaves the hair in a greasy mess.

The skin too is generally greasy, leading to spots and blackheads.

The most common mistake teenagers make is to use severe products to cut the grease, whether on the hair or the skin.

In fact any such product has the opposite effect, stimulating the glands to produce even more grease!

The first step to take is to see the oily and fatty foods, sugar, salt, spices and all junk food are avoided as much as possible.

This will not reduce the grease, which is caused by a hormonal problem, but it will definitely reduce the odour that is often associated with greasy hair and it will improve a teenager's general health.

The hair should be washed every day with a gentle shampoo or a dandruff shampoo if necessary. Dandruff often appears for the first time during the teens and if it is brought under control it will not be a problem later on.

Care should be taken when using heated hair appliances, notorious for causing damage to a teenager's hair. Fashion demands that hair is spiked, frizzed, curled and back-combed, all of which leave it in poor condition.

Use blowdriers, heated rollers

or curling tongs enthusiastically on top of all that and you are asking for split ends and other problems.

Used correctly, that is on a low setting, heated appliances can be used every time you wash your hair. Unfortunately, teenagers are usually impatient and blast their hair with the highest setting, burning the scalp and drying out the hair shaft while they are at it.

The only cure for split ends is to cut them off. If you catch them soon enough it makes no difference to the overall length of the hair, if they are left to their own devices they will travel up the length of the hair shaft and it will be years before the hair is right.

Twenties: This should be the time of your hair's life! Hormones have settled down, teenage problems are a thing of the past and health is at its peak.

However, this is also the time when most women have the money to indulge themselves in all those hair treatments longed for but not afforded as a teenager — colouring, perming, straightening and highlighting.

Even more damage is done to the hair by holidays in the sun and exposure to wind and weather as you take part in your favourite sports.

Many women become pregnant in their twenties and suffer from hair loss or a change in the hair's characteristics. This is caused by the hormonal changes taking place in the body and cannot be avoided completely.

But proper care and diet will ensure that the change is temporary and that regrowth is healthy and fast.

The damage that weathering and chemical treatments does to your hair can also be reversed. Using a conditioner specially formulated for treated hair is a must after every wash. This should be well massaged into the hair and

left on for as long as possible before rinsing.

A regular deep conditioning treatment is advisable too. These can be bought at a chemist or, alternatively, use vegetable oil. Simply warm the oil in a small container and massage it into the scalp.

Cover the hair in plastic film and wrap it in a warm towel, leave it on for as long as possible, at least an hour, before washing.

Try to prevent drying of the hair in the future by taking these steps. Cover your hair with a scarf in wet or windy weather. Slick back your hair with hair gel or conditioner before going into the sun.

Oily hair rarely occurs at this age. If you have it it could be caused by a bad diet or a bad washing routine. Make sure that the shampoo and conditioner you use are for your hair type and always wash your hair in warm water, not hot.

Thirties: The hair begins to dry out quite noticeably at this age as the sebaceous glands slow down and produce only a fraction of the oil they once produced.

The years of bleaching, tinting and perming also begin to catch up on you. Conditioning is the only answer to the problem, as well as a reduction in the chemical processes if possible.

Fashions are changing all the time so it is worth taking a fresh look at your hairstyle to see if you really need those highlights or that perm you have always had.

You might look just as well if not better with a completely new style that doesn't call for such harsh treatment.

Hair loss often starts at this age too. We shed hairs continuously, but sometimes in the middle thirties the hair loss is quite noticeable, with clumps left behind in the sink every time you wash it. This is often caused by stress brought on by the demands

of a career or a growing family.

Relaxation is the antidote to stress, but not the "sitting with the feet up in front of the television" kind. Find a new interest outside the home or take up a sport that will leave you so tired every night that you have no energy left to worry!

The start of grey hair is something else to be concerned with in the thirties. Heredity usually decides when you will start to notice the strands of white, but for most people that happens in thirties.

Your hair gets its colour at the base of the hair shaft where colour pigment is made.

Starting in the thirties, these little colour factories begin to shut down so that the hair growing out of that particular shaft emerges as white rather than black, brown, red or blonde.

There really is no such thing as grey hair. What you are seeing is a mixture of white and coloured hairs which gives the overall effect of grey.

You cannot slow down or stop this process, so accept it as a natural, healthy part of getting on in years. However, you can disguise it very effectively with one of the many rinses and semi-permanent colours.

Forties: By the time you reach your forties, the drying out process that started in the thirties has stepped up even further. This calls for weekly deep conditioning with vegetable oil or a commercial treatment.

Hair should be dried naturally, to avoid further loss of moisture, or using the lowest setting on the drier.

This is the time when you have to take a long hard look at the colour of your hair. When you first started to go grey, you probably began to tint your hair with a shade very close to your natural colour. This may no longer be suitable for you.

Lighten your hair a few shades for a softer, more attractive appearance and lighten your foundation a few shades to go with it.

Another fairly common problem of the forties is a peculiar form of dandruff which is quite severe and can spread to the forehead, eyebrows and even under the eyes. This is usually a form of psoriasis, but doctors still haven't been able to pinpoint exactly why it strikes at this age. It has to be treated by a professional.

Dull, drab looking hair often causes a lot of anguish to women at this age, particularly those who remember the gleaming healthy locks they had in their youth.

This is because the hair is coarse and is not reflecting the light. A colour rinse is often the answer, particularly one such as henna which colours and conditions at the same time.

Overfifties: Most women have been through the menopause by this time with its attendant hormonal upheaval. Hair follicles don't get the support that they used to and there is often hair loss, or the hair can look lank and tired.

If the hair loss is particularly severe professional advice should be sought. However, there is plenty you can do yourself to see that the damage done is minimal.

Use a brush or comb with widely spaced bristles so that there is no pull or drag on the hair. Never use heated appliances if you can help it and choose soft rollers when curling your hair.

Poor circulation in the scalp is the cause of many hair problems in this age group, so keep your scalp stimulated with a daily massage.

Brush your hair forward and hang your head slightly.

Lucky in musicals

Fortune smiling on Lloyd Webber

LOS ANGELES, (UPI): In the 1980s, Andrew Lloyd Webber saw his name become synonymous with the musical theatre, achieved huge financial and popular success and fell in love.

Having already introduced a musical Jesus Christ and a fashionable South American dictator's wife to the stage, the 41-year-old composer added to his cast of characters a singing phantom of the opera, roller-skating trains and a band of performing cats.

The critics gnashed their teeth and trashed the music, calling his large spectacles all flash and no substance, pyrotechnic pandering to the lowest common denominator.

But audiences on four continents roared their approval, setting box-office records and sending his songs to the top of record charts.

"I can't explain the success. It's something that, that happened. I'm somewhat obsessed with my work and to see it getting out to people who have never enjoyed, or even seen musical theatre, is wonderful," Lloyd Webber said in an interview.

"The musical theatre is today healthy, and that's good for everyone, including me. We're reaching more people than ever," he said.

With the success, the cherub-faced Lloyd Webber reportedly raised his personal fortune to an estimated \$480 million.

Lloyd Webber also married the singer Sarah Brightman, who starred in his "Phantom Of The Opera."

"We are wonderful together," he says.

When the decade began musical theatre in New York and London was in a slump. As 1990 begins, musicals are selling out months in advance not only in the traditional centres, but across the nation.

The man generally recognized as responsible for the revitalisation is Lloyd Webber.

Consider his record: "Joseph And The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat" (1968), "Jesus Christ Superstar" (1971), "Evita" (1978), "Cats" (1981), "Starlight Express" (1984), "Requiem" (1985), "Phantom Of The Opera" (1987) and now "Aspects Of Love."

"Jesus Christ Superstar" helped bring rock music to the legitimate stage and enjoyed success as a movie. "Cats" has had a dozen touring companies and has raked in more than \$1 billion.

"Evita" was so popular that a reworked disco hit from the musical made it into the top 10. And "Phantom Of The Opera" continues to set box-office records from London to Los Angeles.

In 1982 and again in 1988 he became the first composer to have three hit musicals running simultaneously in both London and New York.

Recently on the West Coast for a performance of "The Music Of Andrew Lloyd Webber In Concert," the composer discussed his career and directions for the 1990s. But it is when talking about creating new musicals



Andrew Lloyd Webber

that Lloyd Webber is most animated.

"You wouldn't believe it. When we opened this show 'The Music Of Andrew Lloyd Webber' in Canada we did a survey," he said. "It showed that only 20 per cent of the audience had ever seen a musical before. A rather galling discovery you might say."

Lloyd Webber himself discovered music early. His father was director of the London College of Music and his mother a piano teacher. He began studying violin at the age of three and later took up piano and horn. It was a household devoted to classical music.

Lloyd Webber has translated that early classical training onto the stage; his musicals are crammed with overt classical references. "Phantom Of The Opera" has an fugue.

Mixing opera composition with rock music and melody with rhythm, the composer has created a new brand of music

that is as popular off the stage as it is on.

The constant ingredient is the stirring of passions.

"I Don't Know How To Love Him" from Jesus Christ Superstar, "Memories" from "Cats," and "All In All Of You" from "Phantom Of The Opera" are just some of the several songs that became immensely successful singles.

"It's the music that people love," Lloyd Webber said. "I receive letters and letters from people in remote places who say 'please bring your shows here.' They've never seen the shows, but they know the music from hearing on the radio or wherever."

Trying to please himself, his far-flung audience and, some say, his wife, Lloyd Webber created "The Music Of Andrew Lloyd Webber," a theatrical concert featuring his best-known songs performed by 14 singers and played by a 70-piece symphony orchestra.

US film producer retreats disillusioned from Russia

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): Glasnost and perestroika may be changing the world diplomatically, but they haven't done much for Soviet movies.

American producer Malcolm Stuart spent most of the past six months in Moscow trying to complete his new film, "A Captive In The Land," a co-production with the Soviets. The bureaucracy flattened his pocketbook and stretched his schedule almost beyond endurance.

Even Mikhail Gorbachev could not unwind the red tape in which Stuart and co-producer director John Berry found themselves.

"A Captive In The Land" is the first American-Soviet joint production filmed in

the USSR in 13 years — since "The Bluebird" starring Elizabeth Taylor.

A hollow-eyed Stuart returned to Hollywood briefly during a holiday break and said he thanks God there is no American ministry for movies.

"A Captive In The Land" is the story of a downed Soviet pilot and an American rescuer (Sam Waterston) struggling for survival on the polar icecap. The plot deals with these ideological opposites depending on each other to survive.

"The Soviets tried to get this film made for years," Stuart said. "When I came across the script I was anxious to work with the Russians, who put up some of the money and most of the goods and services."

"We wound up with Gorky Studios, which tries very hard but presents us with many problems. There's a difference between the way they work and the way we work regarding availability of money, which is a severe problem in Russia."

Actor Alexander Potapov also presented a problem. A major theatrical star in the USSR, Potapov is also an active member of the Communist Party. When his political duties call, the husky Potapov takes off while the film-makers sit and wait.

"I've been in Russia off and on since August," Stuart said. "We prepared the picture for an Oct 30 start and we're still shooting."

At a major studio in California, making a

movie is picking up a phone and saying, 'take care of this.' And they say, 'we did it three days ago' or 'we'll take care of it right now.'"

In the Soviet Union there is no one to call. You call yourself because you're at the other end of the line.

"If you tell someone that you need four trucks the next day at 9 am to move the company, you get two trucks at about 2:30 pm and one driver wanders off. The other two don't show up at all."

"Maybe it's because they get paid whether they work or not. There's very little incentive to work hard or do something the way it is scheduled."

A lot of non-productive time goes by as the budget goes up. We were scheduled to

finish Jan 20. We'll be lucky to wrap by Feb 10.

"In the middle of production Potapov announced he had to leave for three days to do a play. I protested because he is in every scene, but the head of the studio threw up his arms and said there was nothing he could do. Another day he left for a Communist Party meeting."

"When I complained to the Russian film company that we needed more stagehands they nodded and shuffled some papers and made noises. The next day we were still short-handed. For various reasons they couldn't contact the workers."

Nor could the Americans count on catering, the thought of which made Stuart laugh.

"There is a canteen at the studio that has three items of Russian food that look like a kind of pale sausage," he said. "It isn't good."

"We have a 16-man French crew of technicians, so we go to a hard currency store to buy Western food to bring to the stage. One cannot eat the studio-provided food more than two days in a row."

Despite Russian apathy and indifference to schedules, Stuart found the people to be friendly and as co-operative as they're allowed to be.

Stuart is convinced he will end up with a superb film, despite the difficulties.

"There is tremendous enthusiasm on the part of everyone for what we are doing," he said. "And the rushes look terrific."

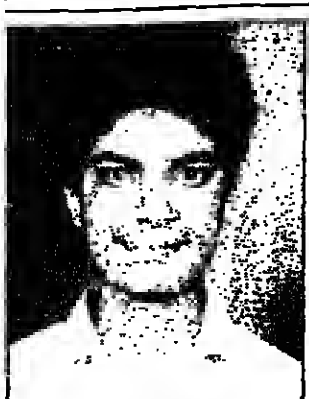
Happy birthday



Fawaz Ansari turned 8 on January 15.



Vidhya Paul Sah turned 6 on January 14.



Jovial D'Souza turned 14 on January 13.



Lijoe Jose turned 5 on January 10.



Sadaf Saeed on January 14.



Rahul Thakar turned 7 on January 9.



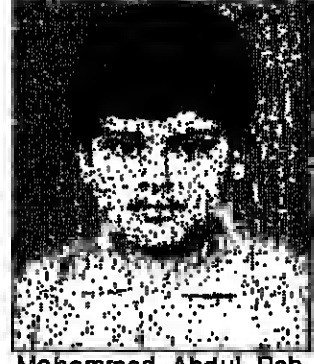
Ali Siddiqui turns 3 today, January 16.



Nookala Rao turns 3 today, January 16.



Ryan Silveira turns 7 today, January 16.



Mohammed Abdul Rehman turns 9 today, Jan. 16.



Roshal Pinto turns 9 on January 17.



Mohit Mittal turns 7 on January 17.

The alien child

He is an alien child from outer space. As he does not belong to the human race. His name is Incredible Hulk. As he was the collector of the garbage bulk. He had two friends and they were great magicians. He had a round face with a funky nose. He loved the red flower called the rose. He was naked with only one pampers. And was the alien's most famous camper. His eyes were big and his face was red. And he used to sleep in a yellow colour bed. He had long legs and his hands were small. His stomach was round and round like a ball. He liked to dance and twist around. With the people which were on the ground. He walked on the road with a gun in his hand. And was surprised to see such a beautiful land. As he saw his own planets, flying saucer. He went to buy some vegetables from the grocer. He went into the saucer saying bye bye. But before long the saucer flew up in the sky. Thus this was the end of the alien child. As he was cute, lovely, but wild, wild, wild.



Mohammad Ashfaq, (Senior - 2), International School of Pakistan.

A little advice to you

Every year on January thirteen. With lots of love I wish you happy birthday. Jovial dear this very day you are fourteen. May God shower his blessings today and everyday.

In action and deeds you be active. Because you are growing day by day. In your work always be self creative. For you should shine in every way.

In life obedience and honesty is a must. Your daily duties never you forget. Keep in life selfishness far away last. Never be lazy which leads to regret.

Co-operation and understanding brings peace. The road of life is tough and hard. Don't have friends like honey bees. This advice of mine is your birthday card.

Today is your happy birthday. I am happy to have a kind brother like you. May Almighty assist you in every way. My promise is, in your hard time, I will help you.



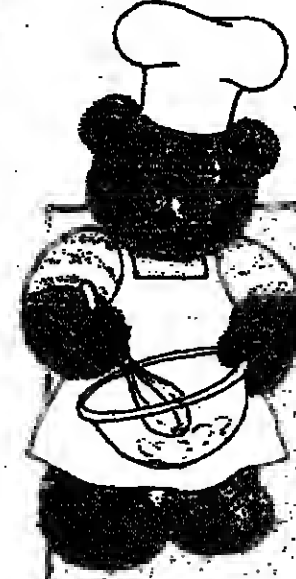
Your brother, Jalick D'Souza.

Shereen's thought for the day

The head is always the dupe of the heart....

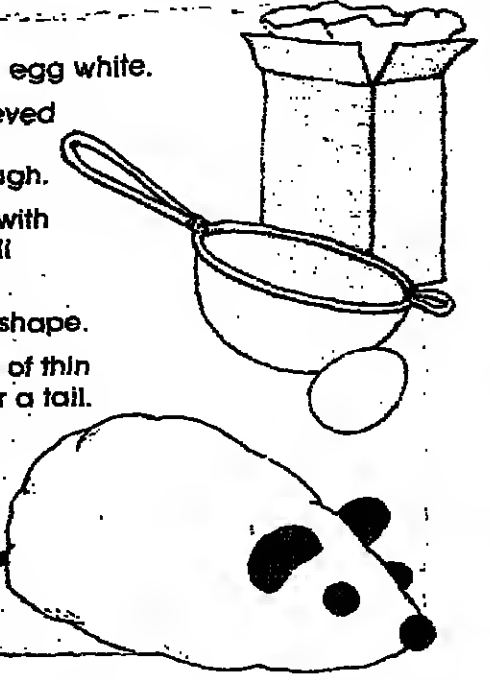


How to make a mouse



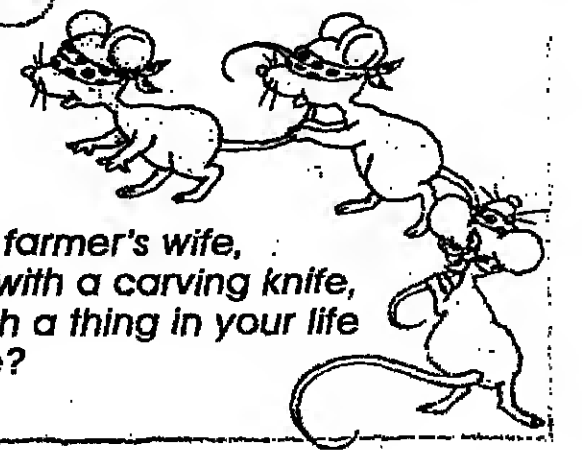
- 1 Lightly whisk an egg white.
- 2 Add enough sieved icing sugar to make a stiff dough.
- 3 Stir and knead with your fingers until mixture is firm.
- 4 Make a mouse shape.
- 5 Push in a piece of thin red liquorice for a tail.

6 Press on two halves of a chocolate button for ears and use small chocolate drops for eyes and nose. Leave the mouse to dry.



Here is a rhyme about three mice

Three blind mice,
Three blind mice,
See how they run,
See how they run.
They all ran after the farmer's wife,
She cut off their tails with a carving knife,
Did you ever see such a thing in your life
as three blind mice?



Variety

Animals and birds have psychic powers

Book reveals mystical attachment with humans

THE young soldier on the battlefield in France couldn't believe his eyes. As a heavy barrage of shell-fire began, he suddenly felt a tug on his trouser leg and, looking down, was amazed to see the pet dog he had left in England weeks before.

Somehow, the loyal dog, called Prince, had crossed the Channel, travelled at least a hundred miles through unknown countryside, and sniffed his master out in the trenches, amongst an army of half a million Englishmen.

The incredible reunion of Prince and his soldier master in the First World War is one of the most amazing true stories in Dennis Bardsen's new book, *Psychic Animals*.

Journalist and author Dennis scoured the world for real-life stories of the uncanny psychic powers of animals and birds. And he says he is now convinced there is a "mystical" attachment between humans and animals.

Dennis, aged 78, told me: "I investigated cases of a woman who was saved by a seagull, a dog who foretold his master's death, a baboon who operated a railway signal box, and cats who travelled hundreds of miles on their own to find their masters. Nothing can explain that secret communication between animal and human."

One of the true stories Dennis collected is of a woman whose life was saved by a seagull. He recounts how 82-year-old Rachel Flynn, of Cape Cod, New England, America, slipped and fell over a 30-foot cliff on a lonely beach.

She was too badly hurt to move, and had almost resigned herself to dying when she noticed a seagull hovering overhead. Rachel thought the seagull might be one that she and her sister fed regularly at their home, just a mile away.

They had got to know the bird so well from its visits that they had even given it a name—Nancy. Rachel, knowing it was a forlorn hope, cried out to the seagull, "Nancy, get help!"

In his book, Dennis writes: "The gull flew off to Rachel's home a mile away, where her sister June was working in the kitchen. June was irritated by the gull continually tapping the windowpane with its beak, and flapping its wings frantically.

"She tried to shoo her away, but Nancy would not fly away or cease her noise. At last, after 15 minutes, June decided that, unlikely though it seemed, the bird was trying to tell her something."

June followed the bird to the cliff edge, where it flew down. Then June saw her trapped sister. After calling the fire brigade, Rachel was taken to hospital with a badly twisted knee. Both sisters are convinced that the bird had saved Rachel's life.

Dennis also tells how domestic cats have saved people's lives. A man was shaving him-

self in the German town of Magdeburg when a stray cat's persistent meowing made him open the door. The cat seemed so agitated that it even pulled at his trouser leg, and walked down the street, looking back as if to make sure he was following.

The man decided to follow. And, only minutes later, a bomb was dropped from a Royal Air Force Lancaster bomber. The house the man had just left was flattened. He would have been killed.

Then Dennis, who claims to be psychic himself, told how a Persian cat called Howie made an epic 1,000-mile journey home. In his book, he describes how Howie was left in Queensland's Gold Coast, in Australia, by schoolboy Kirsten Hicks, who lived in far-off Adelaide.

The cat, that was being looked after by Kirsten's grandparents suddenly went missing. Amazingly, a year later, Howie turned up back in Adelaide.

No-one could explain how the cat had crossed deserts, mountains and plains on the gruelling 1,000-mile journey.

Another incident which proves the psychic link between some animals and their owners is the case of pedigree collie Bobbie, whose American owners took him on a 3,000-mile journey from their home on the Pacific coast of Oregon to a town called Wolcott, Indiana, in America.

Bobbie ran out of the car during a stop, and vanished. So they sadly carried on with their journey.

Three months later, the family were amazed when Bobbie appeared, exhausted, on their doorstep in Oregon.

In his book, Dennis tells how author and researcher Charles Alexander was so impressed by Bobbie's tenacity and determination to find his master, that he traced the dog's route. He talked to eye-witnesses and studied maps.

Dennis, who lives in Notting Hill, London, says: "Charles discovered that Bobbie had crossed the Rocky Mountains in mid-winter, swum turbulent and ice-laden rivers, and he had leapt into the Missouri river to avoid capture. He added: 'Of course, being a lovable animal and in obvious distress, he made many friends on the way and they tried to make him stay. But it was always impossible. Bobbie had one goal and one goal only—to find his master.'"

A little Skye terrier, Greyfriars Bobby, was another dog so devoted to his master that he could not bear to be separated from him. Even by death. When Bobby's shepherd master died, the little dog would not leave his grave in Greyfriars Churchyard, Edinburgh, Scotland.

He kept a solitary vigil in the churchyard through for an incredible 14 years. Dennis, who has written several books on

ghosts says it is not only our domestic pets who have a sixth sense. He tells the story of a baboon called Chacma Jack, whose uncanny understanding of his master seemed to enable him to work railway signals.

Dennis explained that when a signalman at Uitenhage railway station in the Cape of Good Hope, South Africa, lost both legs in an accident, he found it tiring to do his job.

So he taught his pet Chacma how to operate the controls.

The baboon quickly learned the name of each lever, and with unflinching accuracy would race over to pull the correct one at a shout from his master.

One of the most touching cases Dennis describes in his book is when a herd of elephants looked after a human baby. Commander David Blunt, Cultivation Protector for Tanganyika in East Africa, once described to a naturalist how a native woman placed her baby in the shade of a tree while she worked.

Dennis writes: "Suddenly from the hush a herd of elephants passed by. They stopped when they reached the baby. Two or three of them pulled down the branches from the tree. They covered it carefully with a mantle of foliage, so gently as not to wake it. Then they moved off. They had done this to keep the flies off the sleeping infant."

Dolphins have also proved their caring nature to people. They even saved teenager Adam Maguire's life. He was surfing off the coast of Northern New South Wales, Australia, with two friends when a group of dolphins swam over to join their fun.

Suddenly a killer shark homed in on Adam, and tore a deep wound in his stomach. It was coming in for the attack the second time, when the dolphins teamed up and drove the shark away from Adam. With the help of his friends, the teenager struggled ashore and was rushed to hospital. And he still has the scars to remind him of the day the dolphins saved his life.

As we chatted in his book-lined study in his quiet mews house, Dennis, whose wife Marie died several years ago, told me: "For thousands of years, people have recognised the strange and unexplained powers of animals. They were worshipped as gods in many countries."

"And I believe that human beings are inferior to animals in many ways. The Alsatian dog's sense of smell, for example, is a million times more acute than man's."

"A male chimp has an infinitely stronger pull than an average man. We do not have the echo-sounding and radar-style device of the bat, and our brains are not as highly developed as those of the dolphin or elephant."

And Dennis added: "But animals are not only superior to us physically. They also outshine us with their amazing psychic abilities."



A dolphin leaping—psychic expert Bardsen is convinced that a dolphin's brain-power is more developed than ours.

UB40 out with reggae version

'Labour of Love II'

(Pop) UB40, "Labour Of Love II" (Virgin, 91324-4)

UB40, in its latest album "Labour Of Love II," shows why it is anything but a typical British band. The eight-member group has followed up its platinum-plus "Labour Of Love" release with an interesting array of soul classics.

Rather than make mere copies of the originals, UB40 has reinterpreted the classics into reggae renditions.

Among the songs reworked were Al Green's "Here I Am" and the Temptations' "The Way You Do the Things You Do." "Here I Am" comes off acceptably, but the temptations' piece is lost by the reggae style.

The only prospects for success may be "Kingston Town" and "Impossible Love"—the final songs on each side. Their slow, harmonizing sound is more soothing and enjoyable.

UB40 will be very fortunate if it has a song on this album that comes close to the success of "Red Wine," which went to No. 1 off the "Labour Of Love" record.

In this case, reggae and soul classics don't mix. Boh Tripi (UPI)

(Jazz) Helen Merrill and Ron Carter, "Duets" (Emarcy, 838 097 2)

Bass and voice, what a no-frills combination. And here are two of the best, spinning out very personal interpretations of some of the finest love songs in the jazz and popular music idiom.

Helen Merrill caresses lyrics in a way that draws an emotional shading from each word. The master Ron Carter not only offers an empathetic dialogue on his upright bass, but also penned each arrangement.

This is a fine, intimate session featuring vocal versions of "A Child Is Born," "I Fall In Love Too Easily," "My Funny Valentine," Michel Legrand's "The Summer Noise," "Lover Man," "Autumn Leaves" and "Come Rain Or Come Shine." Also included are a Merrill original, "Come Home Again," and Carter's own "Little Waltz." Ken Franckling (UPI)

(Classical) John Adams, orchestra of St Luke's, "Adams: Fearful Symmetries, The Wound-Dresser" (Elektra-Non-essuch)

Here's the latest from the minimalist-with-the-mostest.

These two works could hardly be more different, yet both are connected to Adams's opera "Nixon In China."

In "The Wound-Dresser," the connection is solist Sanford Sylvan. He sang the role of Chou En-Lai in the opera. His vibrato is so discreet and his diction so good, you can actually make out the words he sings.

And what frightening words. They are the words of Walt Whitman, who worked in hospitals in the civil war. Adams reports he composed under the influence of seeing his mother tend his dying father. "Critics have already noted its relevance to AIDS," the CD booklet says.

Whitman's words will hold extra meaning for some. "Many a soldier's loving arms about this neck have crossed and rested; many a soldier's kiss dwells on these bearded lips." But the poem has universal impact: "One turns to me his appealing eyes, poor boy I never knew you: if that would save you."

The truth is that the biggest barrier to appreciating "The Wound-Dresser" is the generic one all classical vocal works face: we of the jazz and rock generations grew up with such a completely different vocal tradition that it's difficult for us to get into song settings. If you can get past that and focus on how Adams makes the music match the words, you will find the work affecting. Comparison to Britten's "War Requiem" is not unwarranted.

"Fearful Symmetries" is about as different a piece of music as can be imagined from the pen of the same composer. Its connection to "Nixon In China" is the orchestra, the same size and makeup as the one the opera has, heavy on brass and backed up by synthesizer. The witty mood is the same, too: Adams takes the same infectious beat he employed in "The Chairman Dances" (recommended: Elektra-Nonessuch 79144) and spins out a series of hoi-cha-cha episodes.

JUNIOR TIMES

GOING IN CIRCLES

| | | |
|-----------|----------|---------------------------|
| AXLE | REELING | M O P S R E T S A C N C C |
| BEVEL | ROTATION | S O I T W I R L L O I V O |
| CASTERS | SPINDLE | M P V E L X A L I R I G G |
| CIRCLES | SPINS | S O O E A L I T C X N Y S |
| COGS | SURGES | W I T T S M A L E I R E S |
| DRILL | SWIVEL | I V S I D T E L L O Q U S |
| EDDY | TOPS | V A L N O S E E P Q R O Q |
| GYROPLANE | TURN | E L I R U N E L T U R N S |
| GYROS | TWIRL | L W I R L R A S D Y V A E |
| IMPELLER | VORTEX | L E V E B N O N G N Q U G |
| MOTION | WHEEL | A X E L L L I R D I A R |
| MOVES | WINDMILL | T H R E L L E P M I Z P U |
| PIVOTS | | W V O R T E X S Y D D E S |

Freddy the Field Mouse

By Julie Hodgson

ONE fine summer morning, Freddy the Field mouse, went out for a walk. The sun was high up in the sky, and there were no clouds in the sky. Freddy decided to visit his friend Tommy the toad down at the pond.

The pond was not far away from Freddy's field, and he would enjoy the walk. On the way he met Francis field mouse, she was a lovely mouse, and Freddy was rather fond of her.

"Good morning to you Francis" said Freddy.

"Good morning Freddy" replied a shy Francis.

"I'm going to see Tommy, would you like to come?" enquired Freddy hopefully.

"Yes please" she said. So off they went through the long wheat field, the birds were singing gaily, and the soft smell of lilac was drifting through their noses.



They reached the pond, and went looking for Tommy. "Ah there he is" said Freddy.

The two mice joined Tommy, who was babysitting Frogspawn for Mrs. Frog.

They all sat gazing into the pond, when all of a sudden, Francis fell into the water.

"Oh no!" screamed Freddy. "I can't swim!"

As quick as a flash, Tommy hopped into the pond, to find Francis, who by now had gone under, it took only a matter of seconds and Tommy had bought Francis safely to

the bank, she was coughing and choking.

"Oh how can I ever thank you Tommy" said a breathless mouse. "Any time Francis" said the toad. He was feeling very proud of himself.

"I think," continued Tommy, that it is high time you learn't to swim. "What a super idea," said Freddy. "But how do I learn?"

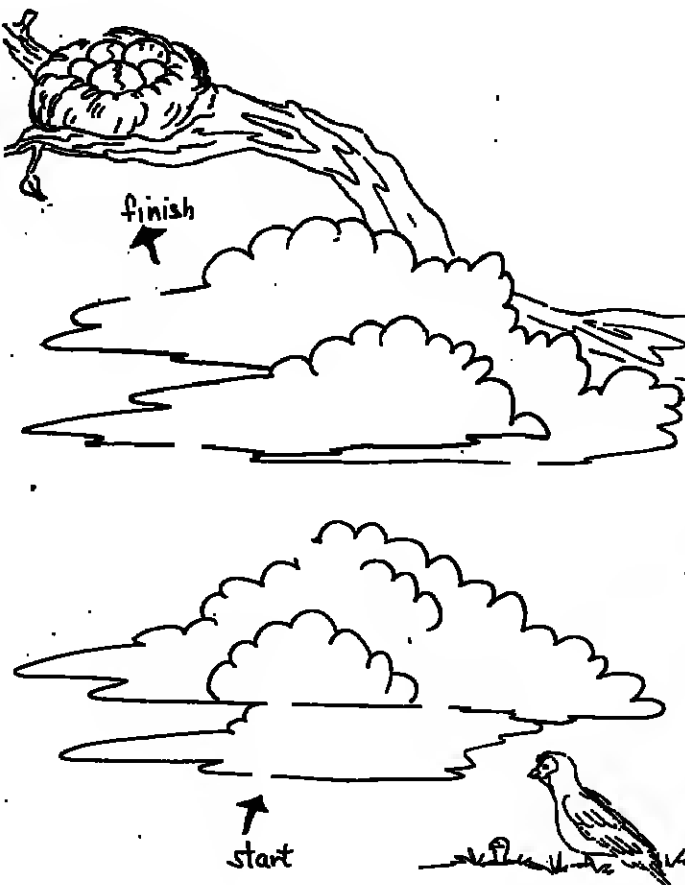
"I will teach you, come by the pond every day for two weeks and that should do it."

So after Francis was dried off she went back home. Freddy and Francis came every day and soon they were able to swim.

The story of Francis falling into the water and not being able to swim, was the talk of the pond for a long time. It was a lesson well learnt. Never go by water if you cannot swim. It is dangerous, even if there is just a little bit in the bottom of the pond, or lake.

Freddy and Francis NEVER forgot that!!!

Puzzle Time



Can the bird find the nest

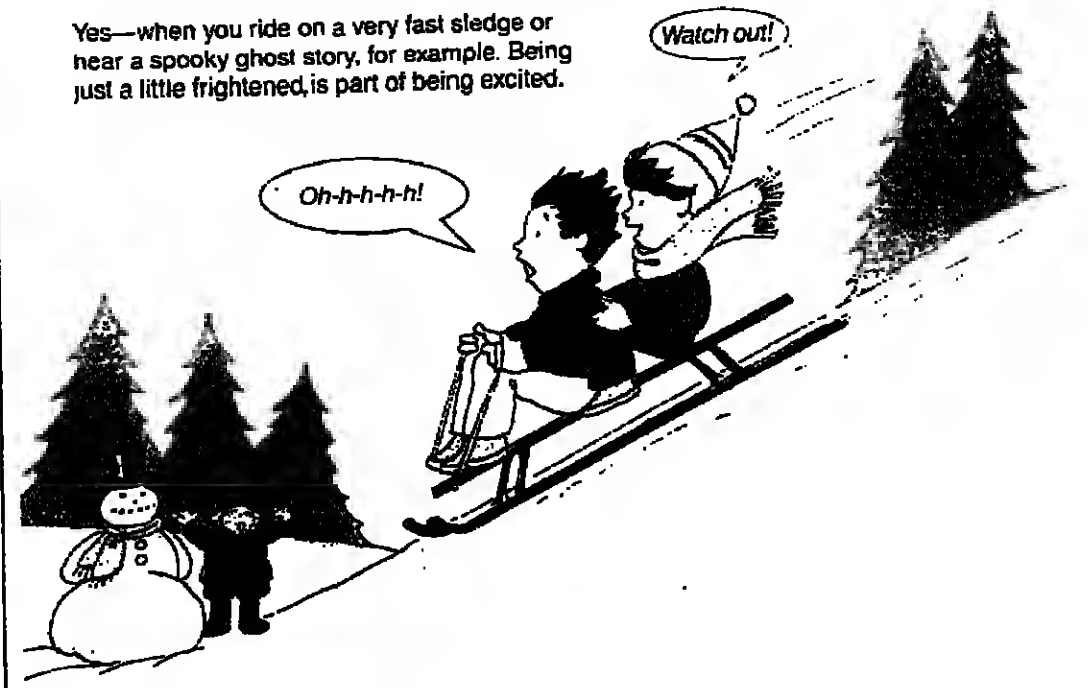
Questions you'd like to ask

What is excitement?

It's that happy, eager feeling of looking forward to something that's about to happen. You can feel excited because something you like is going to happen, or because something new is going to happen and you don't know what to expect.

Can excitement be frightening too?

Yes—when you ride on a very fast sledge or hear a spooky ghost story, for example. Being just a little frightened, is part of being excited.



Dear Junior readers,

The weather has really turned cold this past week and many people have bought heaters for the occasion.

If you have a small electrical heater in your room or at home, you should be very careful not touch its glowing rods. They usually look very pretty and are very comforting when you reach out and feel their heat emission, but they are also a major cause

of horrible household accidents.

The rods are both extremely hot and carry an electrical current. The heat can painfully sizzle anything that touches it; in fact it can make a tissue go up in flames. Imagine how hot that must be!

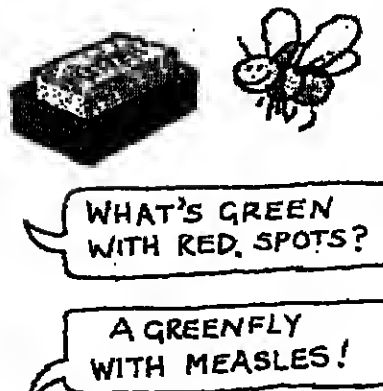
The current, if the heater is slightly faulty, may cause an electrical shock — a very unpleasant experience.

So keep safe ... keep clear.

Manal

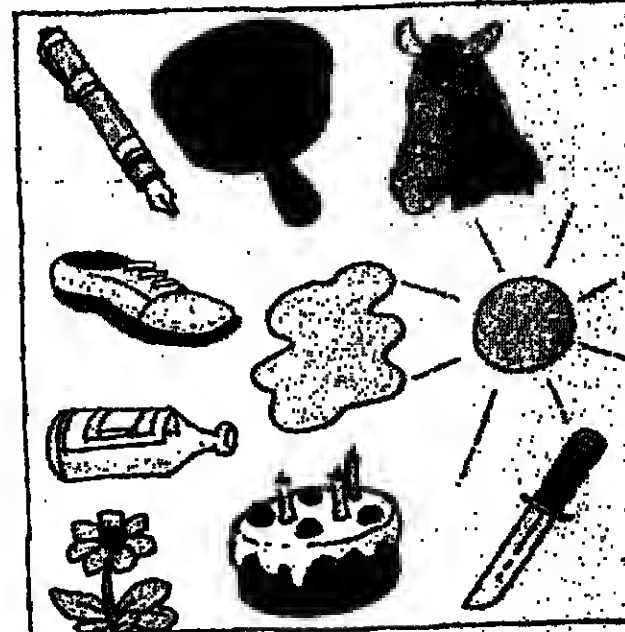
Word pairs

Pair up the ten pictures on the right to give a hidden word. For example, butter linked with fly (below) gives butterfly.

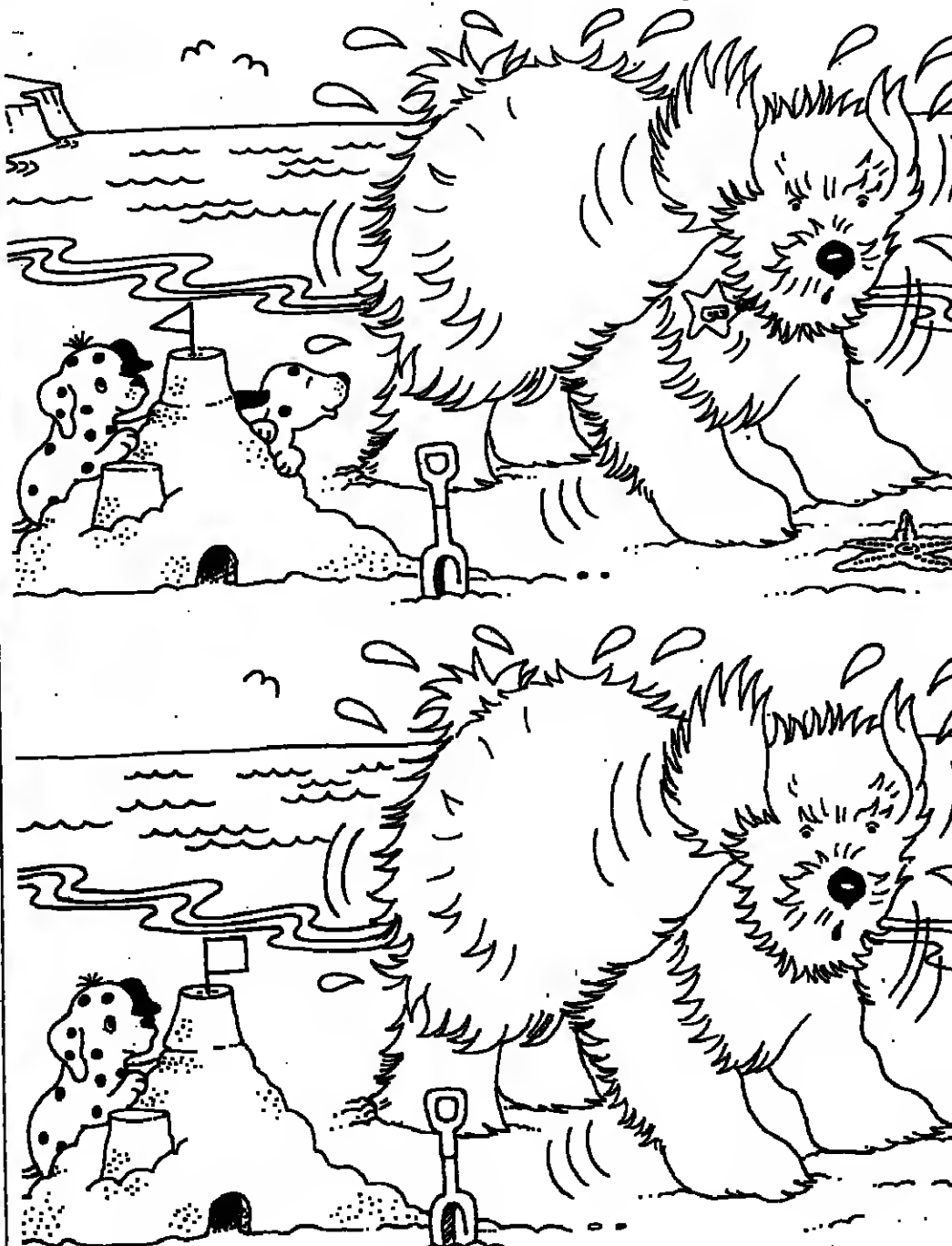


WHAT'S GREEN WITH RED SPOTS?

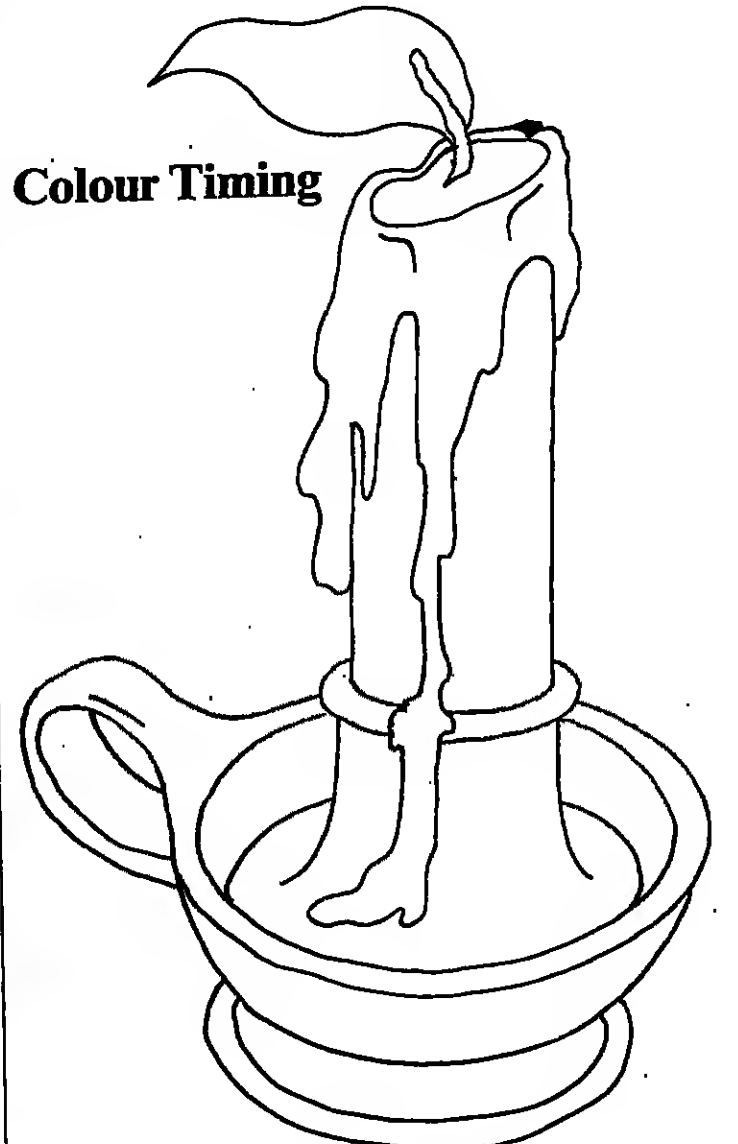
A GREENFLY WITH MEASLES!



Spot the differences between these two pictures



Colour Timing



First and last

Jean Gabrielle Peltier, a French journalist and refugee in London, was found guilty in an English court of libelling Napoleon — but he was not punished, as Britain and France were at war at the time.

The ancestral home of the Washington family, of which the first president of the United States was a member, is in Sulgrave, Northamptonshire. They were aristocrats who emigrated to America after the execution of King Charles I.

A 19th-century Maharajah of Jaipur in India was so suspicious of foreign drinking water, that whenever he went travelling he took several urns filled with water from the river Ganges with him.

Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!
Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.
The details we need are:

Name:
Date of birth:
School:
Hobbies:
Telephone:
(confidential)

Your favourite most recent picture (4x6)

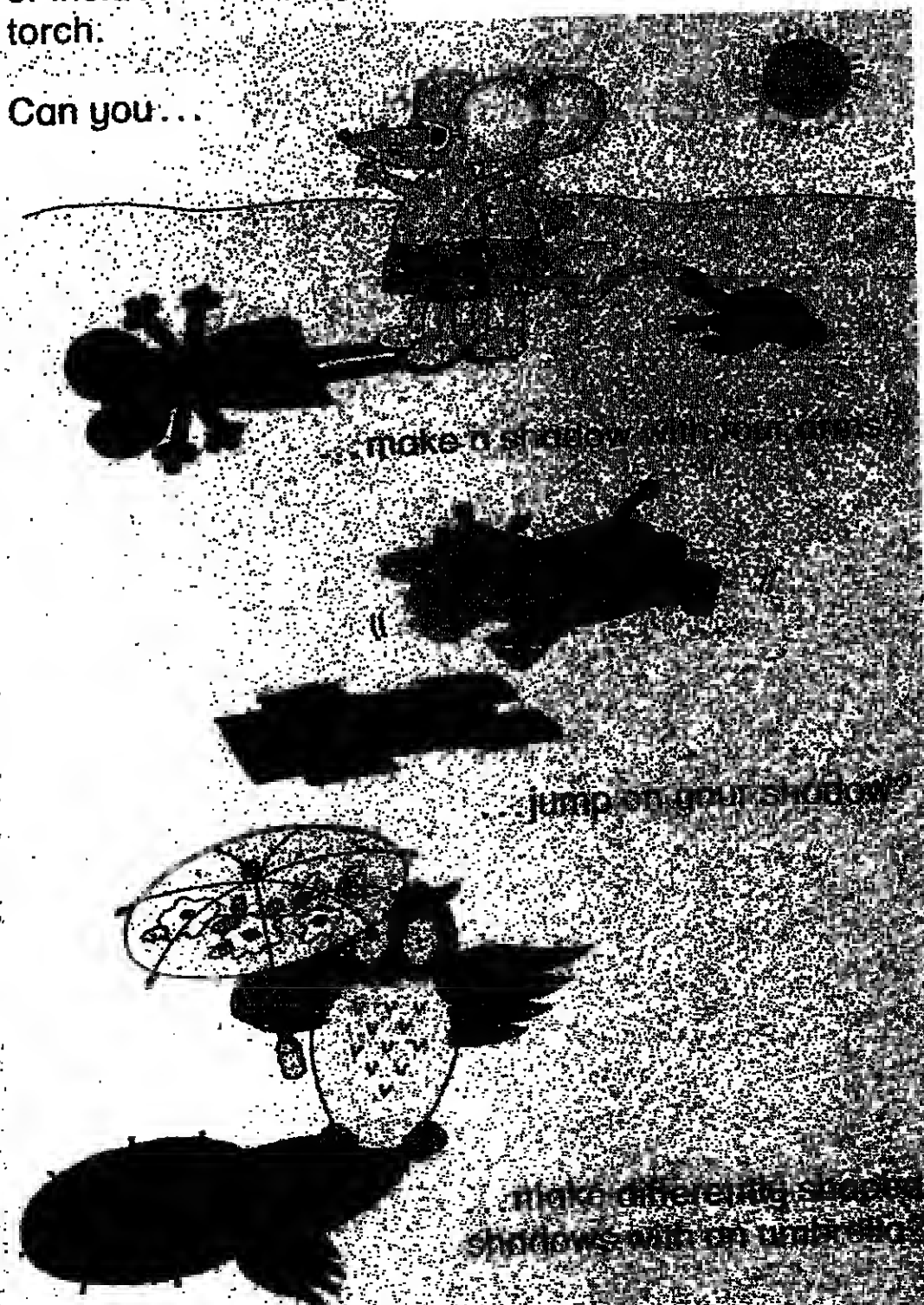
Send to:
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Junior Times
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Kuwait
To avoid delayed greetings please send within a week before the special date

Join the science gang

My shadow

Make shadows with your body. You can do it outside on a sunny day or inside with a lamp or a torch.

Can you...



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Apply confidentially to: Personnel Manager
P.O. Box 26177, Safat, Postal code 13122 Kuwait

LOST

PASSPORT and Civil ID. No. EM215202 in the name of Alexandra Pollock, Canadian. Finder please tele. 4848705, 8 am - 1 pm.
(AT4-51127-3)

DOG, German Shepherd, female, 1 year old, brown with black jacket. Handsome reward for finder. Tele. 5320348.
(AT3-51108-3)

ACCOMMODATION

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JABRIYA, new 2 storey villa, CAC, 6 bedrooms, 2 large halls, 3 bathrooms, large fitted kitchen, servant's quarter. Rent KD800. Tele. 5324848.
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SHAAB, Istiqal Street near the sea-side, 2 bedrooms, 2 toilets, large saloon, and kitchen in a new deluxe building in nice area. Rent KD280 with water. Tele. 2616024, 9021408.
(AT3-51052-2)

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SALMIYA, near the Indian School. One furnished room in a 2 bed room flat with kitchen and tele. facility, preferably for a single person to share with a single man. Tel. Ajit 5655496 (res) after 6.30 pm or 2432001 ext. Ahmadia.
(AT3-51103-3)

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RUMATHIYA, near the Passport Office. Fully furnished room with bath, kitchen and tele. facilities for a bachelor. Tele. 5613695, after 6 pm, Thursday and Friday whole day.
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SALMIYA, near the K.G. Indian School. Building No. 13, ground floor. One room with electricity and water, for a family/bachelors. Rent KD60. Tele. Balbir Singh, 5643426, after 4 pm.
(AT4-51123-3)

MAIDAN Hawalli, opp. Salmiya Fire Station. Single room with water, electricity and tele. facilities for one Indian bachelor to share with a Kerala family. Tele. 5612151 after 2pm.
(AT2-51080-3)

QADISIYA, Area No. 2, Street No. 24, House No. 6. Two rooms for Dawoodi Bohra or Pakistani families. Contact Mr. Obaid personally at 9 pm.
(AT3-51092-2)

FOR SALE

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JVC video camera, GR-C7E (VHS-C), with acc. KD320; Yamaha organ MK-100, KD75; Korg beat box, KD45; Yamaha gold trumpet w/case, unused, KD135; electric guitar w/case, KD85. All items brand new. Tele. 5629516 from 10.30am - 6pm.
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HOUSE plants of different types and large sizes over 6 feet for sale immediately. Tele. 5736794 after 5 pm.
(AT3-51102-3)

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(AT2-51088-3)

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(AT2-51107-3)

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(AT4-51117-2)

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(AT4-51119-3)

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SPORTS

Marathon race

HOUSTON, Jan. 15, (UPI) — Americans Paul Pilkington and Maria Trujillo won first-place honors in yesterday's 18th annual Houston-Tenneco marathon. Pilkington won the men's division in 2:11:13, surpassing his personal best in the 26-mile, 385-yard event by four minutes. Trujillo, who was third last year behind England's Veronique Marot, took command of the race early, then held off a challenge from West Germany's Kerstin Prester to win in 2:32:55.

Channel swim

LOS ANGELES, California, Jan. 15, (AP) — US marathon swimmer Lynne Cox crossed the icy Beagle Channel in South America in a good gesture designed to promote friendship between Argentina and Chile.

England defender

LONDON, Jan. 15, (Reuters) — England soccer defender Nigel Winterburn carried off five minutes from the end of Arsenal's 1-0 defeat by Wimbledon in the English First Division on Saturday, is likely to be out for three weeks with a badly sprained ankle.

English soccer

LONDON, Jan. 15, (AP) — Sheffield Wednesday and Chelsea tied 1-1 yesterday in an English First Division soccer game and failed to alter the leading positions in the standings.

Porto draw

LISBON, Jan. 15, (Reuters) — Porto stayed top of the Portuguese Soccer League yesterday with a 1-1 home draw against Gremio as champions Benfica moved closer.

Kenyan triumphs

ELGYBAR, Spain, Jan. 15, (AP) — Kipyego Kororia of Kenya won the 47th Memorial Juan Maguerra International Cross Country Race in this northern Basque town yesterday.

Italian officials

ROME, Jan. 15, (AP) — More than two years after a pit judge's slight-of-hand gave Italian broad jumper Giovanni Evangelisti a bronze medal at the World Track and Field Championships, the Italian Athletic Federation's disciplinary committee has suspended all high-ranking federation officials of responsibility in the case.

Hastings chess

HASTINGS, England, Jan. 15, (Reuters) — Soviet grandmaster Sergei Dolmatov has won first prize in the Hastings Premier Chess Tournament after battling Boris Gulko of the United States to a draw in the final round last night.

Hall of Fame

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida, Jan. 15, (AP) — A former Indianapolis banker has been named chairman of the board for the international swimming Hall of Fame. Frank E. McKinnis Jr., a 42-year-old former swimmer, will succeed William S. Galt as head of the Hall of Fame and becomes the youngest person named to the post.

NHL games

NEW YORK, Jan. 15, (Reuters) — Results of National Hockey League (NHL) played yesterday:
New York 4 Philadelphia 3
Winnipeg 6 St. Louis 5
Calgary 6 Chicago 5

Head coach

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 15, (Reuters) — Jerry Glavinia, who eight days ago was relieved of his coaching duties of the Houston Oilers, has been hired by the Atlanta Falcons to be head coach of their National Football League team.

Speed skating

DAVOS, Switzerland, Jan. 15, (AP) — Uwe-Jens Mey, the East German gold medalist at the Calgary Olympics in 1988, and Norway's 21-year-old rising star Johann Olav Koss won the wind-up events yesterday to make it two victories each in the two-day World Cup speed skating competition.

SKI jumping

LIBEREC, Czechoslovakia, Jan. 15, (AP) — Werner Haim of Austria yesterday beat Pavel Ploc of the host nation and Soviet jumper Pavel Kusov to win the season's 12th ski jumping World Cup event in this northern Bohemian town.

Montana and Elway overwhelm opponents

49ers, Broncos reach Super Bowl

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 15, (Reuters) — Joe Montana gave a record-breaking performance yesterday to lead the San Francisco 49ers to a 30-3 thrashing of the Los Angeles Rams and a Super Bowl date with the Denver Broncos.

Montana completed 26 of 30 passes, good for 263 yards and two touchdowns, to orchestrate the victory in the National Football Conference final at Candlestick Park and position the 49ers for a run at a record-tying fourth Super Bowl title.

The Broncos advanced to their third Super Bowl in four years by beating the Cleveland Browns 37-21 in Denver for the American Football Conference championship.

San Francisco, seeking to repeat as champions and match the Pittsburgh Steelers' mark of four Super Bowl titles, and Denver, winless in three previous Super Bowl trips, will meet on January 28 in New Orleans.

Montana, who has twice earned Most Valuable Player honors in the Super Bowl, was impeccable as he dissected the Rams defense with a completion rate of 86.7 per cent that set an NFL championship record.

The smooth operating Montana kept the Rams guessing as he spread his passes around among eight receivers.

Los Angeles scored first when Mike Lansford booted a 23-yard field goal early in the first quarter, but that was all the scoring the usually high-powered Rams would manage against the 49ers' underrated defense, which intercepted Rams quarterback Jim Everett three times.

San Francisco hurried the Rams with 21 points in the

second quarter. Montana capped an 89-yard drive by hitting tight end Brent Jones with a 20-yard touchdown pass to give the 49ers a 7-3 lead.

Roger Craig plunged over from one yard out to make it 14-3 and then Montana finished off an 87-yard drive with an 18-yard scoring strike to John Taylor for a 21-3 halftime advantage.

San Francisco controlled the second half, setting up Mike Cofer for field goals of 28, 35 and 25 yards.

Everett completed 16 of 36 for only 101 yards. The Rams, forced into playing catch-up, ran the ball 10 times for 26 yards. San Francisco rushed 44 times for 179 yards.

"I'm proud as heck of our players," 49ers coach George Seifert said. "They played an excellent game and beat a good team."

"Now we have to win back to back...Denver has a heck of an offense built around John Elway. We will have our hands full and it should be a great football game."

Joe Montana, asked to assess the Super Bowl match-up, said he was not very familiar with the Broncos.

"I don't get to see them much, but I'm sure that in the next two weeks on the film, I will get to know them very well," he said.

The Broncos, behind the passing quarterback Elway and a half-hawking defense that forced key turnovers, scored 13 unanswered points in the fourth quarter to pull away after Cleveland had drawn within 24-21 after trailing 24-7.

The victory gave Denver the American Football Conference (AFC) championship for the

second half with two touchdowns to build their lead to 24-7. But Kbsar, coming back from a hapless first-half, launched his second touchdown pass to Brian Brennan, who had not caught a scoring pass in 31 games, and then Tim Manoa bulled in from two yards out to draw within 24-21 as the quarter ended.

Then came the fourth quarter, and it was Elway's turn to take charge.

A short toss to Sammy Winder, filling in for injured running back Bobby Humphrey, turned into a 39-yard touchdown. Elway then moved the ball against a desperate Browns defense twice to position field goals of 34 and 31 yards by Treadwell that clinched the decision.

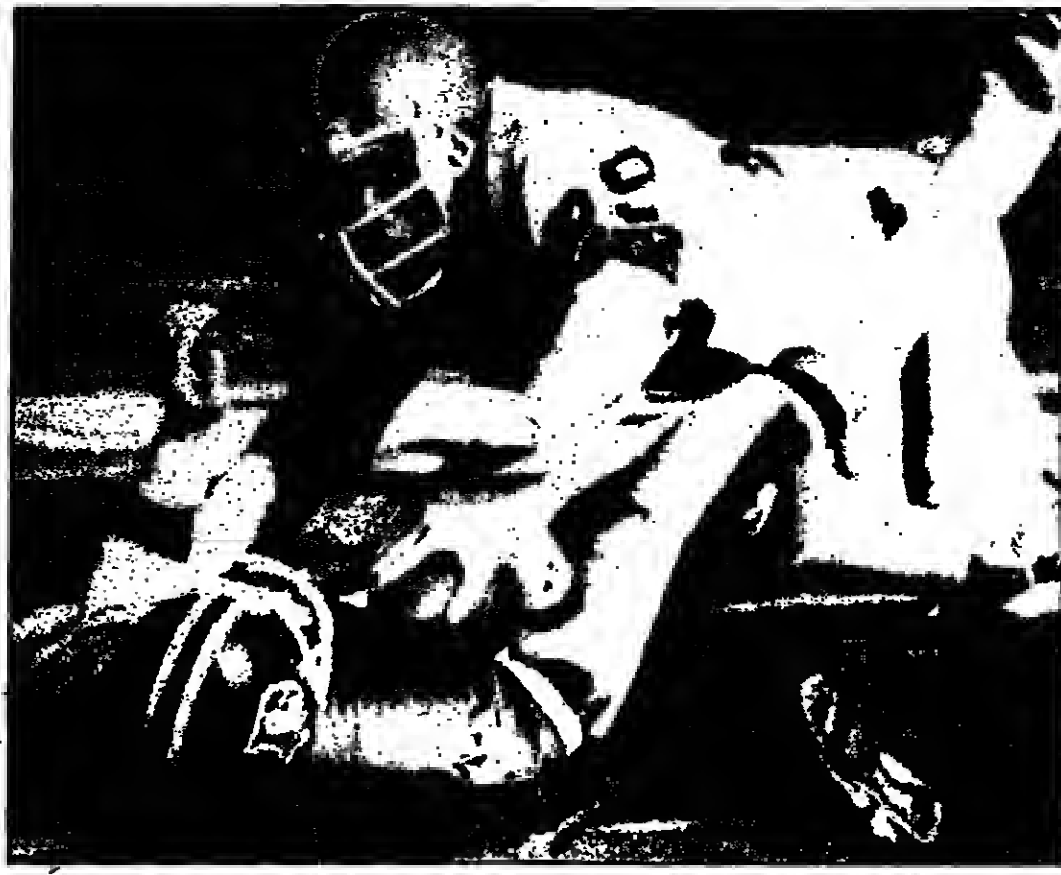
"The offensive line was great all day," Elway said about his protectors. "Cleveland threw everything at us and we handled them."

Cleveland wide receiver Webster Slaughter said: "When we got close in the second half Elway tired out our defense by running around. They had to chase him. They couldn't get at Elway."

Kosar took the loss hard. "I played poorly. I couldn't get anything going in the first half. I thought that we had straightened out our season in the last four weeks and I expected to win today."

Elway, the losing quarterback in the two Super Bowls he has played in to date, said he was eager for another shot at the National Football League championship.

"I'm thrilled I get to go to bat again in the Super Bowl after two losses. No, we won't be embarrassed at all."



Elway lands on his back after being hit by Browns' Harford Dixon. (Reuters wirephoto)

third time in four years — all at the expense of Cleveland in the AFC final.

Elway connected on 20 of 36 passes for 385 yards, his season-high, and three touchdowns with two of the scoring strikes coming after scrambles to avoid the Browns' blitz.

The strong-armed Elway was not intercepted but his Cleveland counterpart, Bernie Kosar, was

not so accurate. Kosar, playing with an injured finger and elbow on his throwing arm, was picked off three times and completed only 19 of 44 passes.

Denver dominated the first half but came away with only a 10-0 lead on a 70-yard touchdown pass from Elway to Michael Young and a 29-yard field goal by David Treadwell.

Finnish journalist killed in rally

Vatnen retains overall lead

PARIS, Jan. 15, (Reuters) — A Finnish journalist was killed in a car crash yesterday while covering the Paris-Dakar Rally, the first death for two years in the gruelling race through the Sahara Desert, organisers said.

Kaj Salminen, 37, was killed instantly when his press car collided with a local vehicle at the entrance to the village of the race from Tidjikja in Mauritania to Kayes in Mali.

Salminen, himself a former racer, was the 27th death in the event since it began in 1979. He was a close friend of fellow Finn Ari Vatnen, who ended the day retaining his confident lead in this 12th rally.

Eyewitnesses said the French driver of the Toyota car, Pierre Devaux, escaped unhurt from the vehicle, as did locals in the second car involved in the crash.

The year 1988 was a black one for the rally with six deaths during the race. In the only serious accident this year, French rider Pierre-Marie Poni is still in a

coma in a hospital in Marseille after an accident on January 5 during the fifth stage of the race.

In the car race, Vatnen's fellow Peugeot driver Philippe Wamberegue of France made a comeback from his disastrous performance on Saturday by winning the two-stage sections, a 205-km stretch to Goudron in the morning and 280 km from Kiffa to Kayes in the afternoon.

Lada made a good showing, with French driver Jerome Riviere and Belgian Jacky Cox coming second and third respectively in the first time section.

In the motorcycle race, Italy's Ed Orioli retained a firm lead despite the day's win by Belgian Gaston Rahier on a Suzuki and Italy's Franco Picco riding a Yamaha.

Orioli has an hour's lead as he entered the second last day of the race today over 838 km from Kayes to Saint-Louis in Senegal.



Ari Vatnen

Trice gets unanimous verdict

Benn scores split decision

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, Jan. 15, (AP) — Tyrone Trice, a world-ranked welterweight contender, rallied from the brink of defeat in the 10th round last night and scored a unanimous 12-round decision over Kevin Pompey at Caesars.

Nigel Benn, a world-ranked middleweight from Britain, rallied in the final four rounds and scored a 10-round split decision over Sanderine Williams.

Trice's victory made him the World Boxing Association Americas 147-pound (66-

kilogram) champion. Trice, an American, built his winning margin with smashing blows to the body and short shots to the head. However, he almost lost late in the 10th round.

Both fighters threw rights and Pompey's caught Trice flush on the jaw. Trice wobbled backward, but Pompey, an American, did not have time to finish him.

Trice out Pompey over the left eye in the fourth round and had him in deep trouble in the 11th. But he could not knock Pompey

Trail Blazers score easy win over Nets

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey, Jan. 15, (AP) — Rebounding from a five point loss to Detroit a day earlier, Portland won from the seventh time in eight games with a 99-90 victory over the New Jersey Nets in the NBA's only game last night.

In doing so, they outrebounded the Nets 55-33, with Clyde Drexler and Buck Williams grabbing 13 each and Jerome Kersey adding nine.

"With Buck, Jerome and Clyde, we have three of the best rebounders in the League at their position," Trail Blazers coach Rick Adelman said. "Buck's work ethic and positive attitude have been an inspiration to everyone."

Drexler matched two season highs with his 13 rebounds and 36 points.

Gamez takes Tucson title

TUCSON, Ariz., Jan. 15, (Reuters) — Robert Gamez wasted no time in conquering the pressures of life as a professional by winning his first start as a member of the PGA Tour with a four-shot victory in the Tucson Open yesterday.

Gamez, who as a University of Arizona student was named the 1989 College Player of the Year, shot a final round of two-under-par 70 for an 18-under-par total of 270. The 21-year-old Gamez received \$162,000 for his win.

"To make this event in the city where I went to college my first win on the Tour, well, this is a dream come true," said Gamez, who grew up in Las Vegas. "It was special to walk onto the 18th green and have so many of my friends there cheering me on. I'll never forget it."

Standings of National Basketball Association teams after games played yesterday (tabulate under won, lost, winning percentage, games behind):

| Eastern Conference | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|------|--------|
| Atlantic Division | | | | |
| New York | 25 | 10 | .714 | — |
| Boston | 21 | 14 | .600 | 4 |
| Philadelphia | 19 | 16 | .543 | 6 |
| Washington | 14 | 21 | .400 | 11 |
| New Jersey | 11 | 25 | .306 | 14-1/2 |
| Miami | 7 | 30 | .189 | 19 |
| Central Division | | | | |
| Detroit | 25 | 12 | .676 | — |
| Chicago | 23 | 12 | .657 | — |
| Indiana | 21 | 15 | .583 | 3-1/2 |
| Atlanta | 18 | 15 | .545 | 5 |
| Milwaukee | 19 | 16 | .543 | 5 |

| Western Conference | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|------|--------|
| Pacific Division | | | | |
| San Antonio | 23 | 9 | .719 | — |
| Utah | 23 | 11 | .676 | 1 |
| Denver | 21 | 15 | .583 | 4 |
| Dallas | 17 | 18 | .486 | 7-1/2 |
| Houston | 16 | 19 | .457 | 8-1/2 |
| Charlotte | 7 | 25 | .219 | 16 |
| Minnesota | 7 | 28 | .200 | 17-1/2 |
| Midwest Division | | | | |
| L.A. Lakers | 25 | 8 | .758 | — |
| Portland | 26 | 11 | .703 | 1 |
| Phoenix | 17 | 14 | .548 | 7 |
| Seattle | 17 | 16 | .515 | 8 |
| Golden State | 16 | 17 | .485 | 9 |
| L.A. Clippers | 15 | 19 | .441 | 10-1/2 |
| Sacramento | 8 | 25 | .242 | 17 |

Two Koreas talks fail

SEOUL, South Korea, Jan. 15, (AP) — Sports officials from South and North Korea failed again today to agree on procedures for forming a joint team for this year's Asian Games, clouding the future of the talks, reports said.

Today's meeting, the fourth since Dec. 1, broke down after each side accused the other of insincerity in preparing for the September games in Beijing, according to South Korean

CRICKET

Salmiya outclass Sialkot

SALMIYA Cricket Club beat Sialkot Cricket Club by four wickets in a Home Nations Trophy cricket tournament match at the Salmiya ground earlier this week.

Sialkot won the toss and opted to make first use of the wicket. Mohsin and Zaher opened the innings for Sialkot and took the score to 75 before the latter was out for 22.

Abid also lost his wicket to Fani on the next delivery but Farooq and Mohsin pushed their team along. Mohsin hit 53 before he was out with the total 106. Sialkot struggled along after Mohsin's dismissal and managed to score 129 for the loss of four wickets in the 25 allotted overs.

Salmiya opened their innings through Fasil and Wajid and both of them took the score to 32 in five overs before Fasil was out for 23.

Salmiya kept losing wickets at regular intervals but their batsmen also kept up with the run-rate. Fani remained unbeaten on 43 and Saleem Sulaiman hit 39 as Salmiya got the required runs in 21 overs.

Earlier on, Salmiya's Shahid and Fani had shared the four Sialkot wickets to fall.

Jashnam League

A magnificent all-round performance by Sheikh Ayoub helped the Bank of Kuwait & Middle East (BKME) win their match against Crescent by 5 wickets and also kept them in contention for the Jashnam Friday League championship.

Crescent won the toss and elected to bat first, opening through N. Butt and Zahid. A fine pickup and throw by Salmiya ran out Butt with the total of 29. Mahboob and Zahid then put on a show in the second wicket before Zahid was out, caught by James of Salmiya for 30. Mahboob left at 95, caught by Salmiya off Salmiya for 30.

Tariq and Zameer then threatened briefly before Sheikh Ayoub, in his sixth over, broke the back of the Crescent innings.

On his third delivery he had Tariq caught by James for 16. On the next delivery, Zameer edged into the hands of the keeper Ashfaq for 21, while Farhat offered his pads to the fifth delivery to be plumb in front of the wickets giving Sheikh Ayoub a remarkable hat-trick. James then mopped up the tail, claiming the wickets of Arshad, caught by Salmiya for no score, Ishaan, caught by his own bowling for 6, bowling Ishaan for 17 and having Shaheed bow for 12 to end Crescent's innings at 162.

For BKME, James had figures of 4 for 10 in 4.3 overs, while Ayoub had 3 for 38 in 6 overs and Salmiya 2 for 33 in 8 overs.

BKME opened their innings through Rodney and Ashfaq. Rodney did not last long as Butt shattered his castle in the second over. Ashfaq and Sheikh Ayoub then took the score to 58 when N. Butt showed superb reflexes to hold on to a bowler's back drive from Ashfaq. Ashfaq contributed 25 with 2 fours.

Sheikh Ayoub and Mahmoud Bakshi consolidated their score with a partnership of 50 when Bakshi, trying for a sneaky single slipped and couldn't retrieve his ground. Bakshi's innings of 26, with four fours, ended with him last long, Tariq bowling him for 2.

Sheikh Ayoub's patience ran out and trying to hit Tariq out of the ground misused him in the hands of Mahboob. Mahboob's 56 had a huge six besides 3 fours.

Sethi and Rammoohan spared BKME's blushes by putting on 43 runs and taking them past the Crescent total. Sethi contributed 36 with four fours and Rammoohan 21 not out with 3 fours.

Patron's Trophy

Lanka Lions Cricket Club (Jamaal Al Ghanim Est.) will meet Evergreen C.C. in the final of Patron's Trophy cricket tournament, sponsored by Mohan Marwah, at the EPI Grounds on Friday, January 19, 1990. The game will commence at 9 am and will be played to a finish with each side allocated 45 overs.

The Lanka Lions have had an impressive run to the final defeating Rangers C.C. and Falcon C.C. with the latter ending in a finishing finish. In keeping with the tradition of entertaining cricket, which is normally associated with EPI tournaments, spectators could look forward to a keenly contested encounter played in the true spirit of the game.

The Lanka Lions team will be picked from the following: Cagla Perusinghe (capt.), Chula Dunsara (vice-capt.), Namal Fernando, Meraj Hettige, Ranil de Silva, Donald Silva, Dhammika Perera, C.H. Disenayake, Sujith Marasinghe, Upali Gunatunga, Nalin Jayasundera, Shanika Samarasinghe, Ray Fernando, Mohammed Jaleed and Rohitha Balasuriya.

Officiating umpires for the match will be Hazi Sarfaraz and Tahmeed Ull Hassan and players would be expected to report at the grounds at 8.30 am.

Foreman squeezes in workout before fight

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, Jan. 15, (UPI) — With no pulpit available and a boxing ring standing empty the day before his fight, George Foreman the minister skipped church yesterday so George Foreman the boxer could work out.

"I couldn't find a place to speak," Foreman said. "Generally, if I'm not speaking, I rest."

Instead, with the fight against Gerry Cooney this evening, Foreman chose a departure from typical heavyweight training by working out the last day.

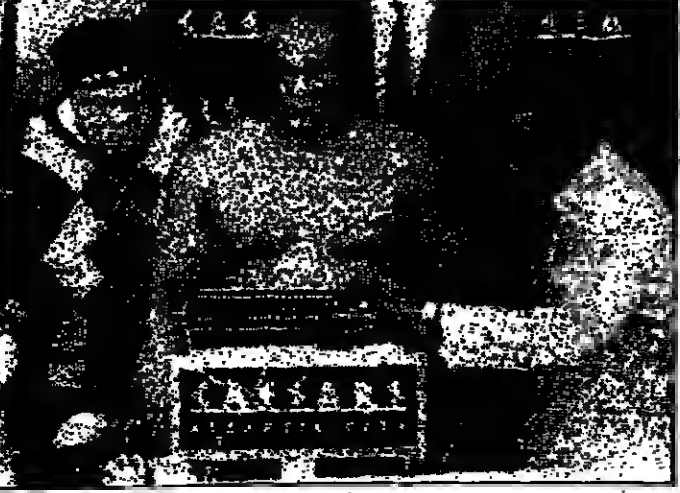
In sharp contrast at the other extreme, Cooney stopped sparring 5 days before the fight and rested for the 10-round bout both Saturday and yesterday.

"You have a good workout, you eat better, you have a better appetite, get a good night's rest," Foreman said.

"The more nervous energy I have," the 42-year-old said, "the more you guys will call me a kid. Besides, I told you guys I would weigh 250 pounds, so I better break a sweat."

Foreman weighed in last night at 253 1/4 pounds, compared with Cooney's 231, after light workout mainly at the heavy bag.

And of course, in addition to giving that energy an outlet for escape, working out served



Foreman weighs in for his fight. (Reuters wirephoto)

Foreman's need to attract an audience.

"I think they should have a mandatory age for boxers to retire — 65," he cackled.

Cooney's business partner and friend, Tom Mara, said their camp was surprised Foreman wanted to work out yesterday.

"It's very unusual for heavyweights," Mara said. "Gerry's just resting, he ran three miles Thursday, worked the floor Friday and that's it. Gil wants to relax."

Mara said trainer Gil Clancy cut short sparring last Wednesday

exchange with Gerry, the odds are greatly improved in favour of George being on his rear end."

Foreman said he never argues with Clancy but joked he wouldn't want to face someone with even half the power of the old Foreman.

"I hoped I didn't lose it and someone else picked it up and, my goodness, I'd have to fight the fella that picked it up," he said.

"I'll have my fill when I have to fight Gerry Cooney — mainly because he'll have the aid of Gil Clancy."

Cooney, returning to the ring at age 33 after a 2-1/2 year layoff, asked Clancy, now a television analyst, to train him for his comeback fight.

If Clancy's are evident this evening, the left hook that is Cooney's main weapon will be slightly shortened. Clancy said he was looking for better balance to avoid the sequences of the past when Cooney would swing and miss and be open for a counter-punch.

Every time he throws it (the left), I'm gonna give him a right hand," Foreman said. "I'll stand toe-to-toe with him if he'd like. I've never been one to run, even if I practise it."

With two great punches, anything can happen but let me tell you, I'm prepared. Being on

the canvas is no news to me, being out is no news to me. What can he do to me that hasn't been done before?"

The variable in this fight, though, is not how Foreman fights. It is how Cooney would react to being hit.

He claims he is not the disheartened, pressured, hard-drinking fighter that left the ring in 1987 after a listless loss to Michael Spinks.

"I can do anything I want to do," Cooney said. "I feel really happy. I've worked hard. I've been breaking my (butt), it's been well worth it."

"I'm not going to stand there and let him hit me," Foreman said he doesn't plan to simply pound away.

"I'll hit you in the spot," he said. "I've learned if I hit you under the short rib, I won't have to go there any more. Beforehand, I would just keep hitting and hitting. Once, I land there, you can put your left hook in your pocket."

Each fighter's purse is \$1 million. Caesars personnel anticipated a sell-out and promoter Bob Arum said yesterday 1,500 seats were being added to the original 11,049 but casinos were believed to have played at least as heavy a role as the boxing public in sales.

World Cup races

Austrian Richard Kroll on his way to victory in the World Cup Giant Slalom race in Villa, northern Italy, on Sunday. Right: Veronika Seroc (left) of Yugoslavia and Claudia Strobel are all smiles after finishing first and third respectively in the women's World Cup Slalom race in Havs, Austria, on Sunday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mayotte and Sanchez upset Cunningham gives Graf a scare

MELBOURNE, Australia, Jan 15, (Reuters): Steffi Graf, the queen of women's tennis, was given a scare today when little-known American teenager Carrie Cunningham traded hammer forehands for 75 minutes before succumbing 6-2 7-5 in the first round of the Australian Open.

Graf, who has not dropped a set in winning two successive titles here, lost her touch for several games in the second set to present the left-handed Cunningham with a 5-2 lead.

But the moment of truth proved too much for the 1988 US Open junior champion and the West German world number one conceded just five points before wrapping up victory in a thrilling match with two successive aces.

"It's everyone's nightmare to play Steffi in the first round but I was proud of the way I played," said Cunningham, 17. "I couldn't believe it when I was 5-2 up — I was so astonished I think that's what made me start making errors."

Graf was unfazed by her fright. "I'd never seen her before," the number one said. "She played well but it's only the first match of the tournament."

Ivan Lendl, the men's top seed and defending champion, found his best form elusive but also moved safely into the second round of the first Grand Slam tournament of the 1990s, beating American Jim Pugh 6-3 6-2 6-4.

On a low-key opening day when only Lendl among the big name men was in action, the main casualties were Tim Mayotte and Emilio Sanchez, seeded sixth and seventh.

Mayotte lost for the second time in six days to follow-

American Pete Sampras, going down 7-6 6-7 4-6 7-5 12-10 in a marathon lasting four hours 45 minutes.

Spain's Sanchez was earlier undone by big-serving Frenchman Jean Flaurin, world-ranked 57, who registered a surprisingly comfortable 6-2 6-4 success.

Graf started the 1990s as she had left the 1980s, winning the first game to love as her forehand drew gasps of admiration from the centre court crowd.

She took the first game with a delightful drop shot but Cunningham showed she was not to be steamrollered by breaking back immediately. A double fault by the 17-year-old let Graf take the first set in 30 minutes.

When Cunningham broke for a 3-1 lead in the second set, Graf's second serve suddenly lost all conviction, her timing appeared to desert her and the American smelled an unexpected chance.

She raced to a 5-2 lead, moving Graf around the court like few have done in the past two years. But her nerve failed when serving for the set at 5-4, shots started to

spray all over the court and the crowd knew the moment and passed.

Lendl also never approached his best form against Pugh. Wearing a legionnaire-type hat to ward off the sun, Lendl said his headgear was influenced by his experience last year when he came close to collapse through heat exhaustion in his semifinal against Austrian Thomas Muster.

Mayotte signed his own death warrant by serving double faults on the final two points of the match.

Despite earlier saving himself with an ace on his second serve on match point against him, Mayotte was left ruing his frail second serve which caused him to serve 11 double faults in the protracted final set.

"It's a real Achilles heel for me," said Mayotte, who had appeared well beaten at 4-1 down in the final set before rain caused a 26-minute interruption.

"I was very lucky," he said. "But most of the guys on the tour know Tim has a pretty shaky second serve, especially in tight situations."

Among the better-known players to fall was Israel's Amos Mansdorf who, in contrast to Lendl, found the temperature too low when his match against Austrian Alex Antonitsch was briefly held up.

"I found myself serving in the final set and was completely cold. It cost me three straight games," said Mansdorf after going down 4-6 6-4 6-4 6-7 6-3.

Two big hitters with past success in the event also went out. Slohodon Zivjovic of Yugoslavia, a semifinalist five years ago, won only five games against Swede Mikael Pernfors.

Dutchman Michiel Schapers, twice a quarterfinalist, lost in four sets to 18-year-old Australian Todd Woodbridge.



Graf (left) and Lendl: moved into 2nd round with contrasting wins



Hubara and Kifco score wins

CRAIG SHIPTON, the Hubara captain took on Flying Arrows single handed, in the Jashanmati League, at the KOC Grounds Ahmadi. He scored a magnificent 116 and then took 3 vital wickets to enable Hubara to win by 5 runs.

Hubara did not have it all their own way. Having been set a daunting target of 198 off 30 overs, Flying Arrows started their innings in typical cavalier fashion. Rudy, Derrick and Verold were the main contributors, scoring 83, 30 and 21 respectively.

With 6 overs to go, the Arrows batsmen looked well in control and were favourites to win. It was then that experience told and Shipton changed his bowlers around. He took the vital wicket of Manoj, (who looked capable of sending Arrows to victory) courtesy of a fine catch by Hunt. That effectively ended Arrows challenge and Shipton completed formalities by bowling Vijay.

Earlier in the day, Hubara had won the toss

and elected to bat, because the tea lady wasn't there. The usual openers went out to bat, and Talbot was quickly reduced to the role of spectator as he watched Shipton do the batting. In an opening partnership of 81 Talbot scored only 14 such was Shipton's dominance at the crease. Hunt followed Talbot back to the pavilion, adjudged lbw for 4. Haseman was second top score with 18 and useful contributions by the middle and late order saw Hubara to a total of 198 for 8.

A rampant Kifco brushed aside muted challenge from Starlite and carved out an impressive 8-wicket victory in the semifinals of Kifco trophy, played at KCL ground on Friday. This was Kifco's fourth straight victory against Starlite and overall 14th consecutive victory this season in which they remain unbeaten so far.

Starlite won the toss and opted to bat first but met with immediate disaster when Qayyum was caught and bowled by Amin for 3. A second wicket partnership of 79 runs

between Iqbal Jr and Mansoor Sr steadied the innings but when Rafiq Butt was introduced into the attack both these batsmen were dislodged in quick succession for 55 and 35 runs respectively. Thereafter no other batsmen could handle Kifco attack confidently except Shabbir who remained not out on 29.

Starlite managed to score 169 runs for 8 wickets at the end of 27th over. Rafiq Butt bowled an excellent spell of six overs in which he conceded only 26 runs and captured four wickets. Aqueel took two for 47 followed by Amin and Rashid who took one each for 25 and 43 runs respectively.

Kifco smashed the required runs in just 23 overs for the loss of only two wickets. Arshad Shams scored 54 with five fours. Nasir and Rashid Ansari remained not out on 59 and 44 respectively. Rashid's hurricane innings contained three sixes in one over bowled by Shabbir.

Kifco will now face Evergreen in the finals.

UAE's Cup chances small: Eissa

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, Jan 15, (AP): The United Arab Emirates' chances of reaching the World Cup finals in Italy this year, is "a dream come true, but it has little chance of getting past the first round, the former national squad captain said today.

But Ahmed Eissa stressed in an interview with the Associated Press that the UAE team is out to play hard and gain the most experience it can

playing the world's top soccer teams. "It's a dream come true for the UAE," said Eissa. "I never expected to see the team qualify for the World Cup finals in my lifetime."

It will be the first time the Emirates' squad has reached the finals of soccer's top tournament. The UAE is grouped with former champions West Germany, Yugoslavia and Colombia in the 24-nation finals.

"Naturally we're overjoyed, but we know that we won't progress beyond the first round. However, that won't stop us from giving our best," Eissa said.

Eissa, who has watched the Germans, Yugoslavs and Colombians play, noted: "They're all very good and professional. It's a unique experience for the Emirates to play with the world's best teams and we mustn't waste this opportunity."

Brazilians draw

SAO PAULO, Brazil, Jan 15, (AP): Brazil and Argentina battled to a 0-0 tie yesterday in the second round of the Masters Cup tournament of former soccer greats held in South America's largest city.

A crowd of some 10,000 fans at Pacaembu stadium in Sao Paulo watched past stars from the two squads play top quality soccer in an exciting match.



Nehru Cup

Olympia striker Luis Monzon (left) dribbles past an East Bengal (Calcutta) club player in a Group A match of the Nehru Cup soccer tournament in Calcutta on Sunday. Monzon scored the only goal of the match, propelling Olympia to a 1-0 victory. Right: East Bengal captain Krishanu Dey (right) controls the ball as Olympia midfielder Adolfo Jara pursues him. (Reuters wirephoto)

Maradona's faith in miracles intact

DIEGO MARADONA was able to face his daughter with his head held high and his faith in miracles intact on Sunday after Napoli hit last minute goals to stage off a seemingly inevitable defeat at lowly Udinese and stay top of the Italian League.

Napoli were 2-0 down to their little fancied opposition with just three minutes remaining when the Argentine World Cup captain scored from the penalty spot in the 88th minute and then set up an amazing equaliser as the match entered injury time.

The stocky midfielder sent a pass across goal for Giancarlo Corradini to scramble into the back of the net.

By then defending champions Internazionale, 3-0 winners against Bologna, had already started celebrating a result they believed had finally topped their southern rivals.

"When I hit that penalty I thought it would be useless," Maradona said, admitting that he had almost lost hope when Luca Mattei scored Udinese's second goal in the 87th minute.

"I thought I would have to tell my daughter that we had suffered a nasty defeat. Now I can tell her about a miracle."

Napoli trainer Alberto Bigon was equally grateful to fortune for saving his team from their second defeat of the season.

"I feel as if we were saved by a miracle after risking going under ... when Udinese went 2-0 up I had given up all hope."

It was the fifth time this season that Napoli had pulled back late goals to save themselves from the brink of defeat and retain the slot they gained on October 1 as League leaders.

Wrapped

But with only one point separating them from a resurgent Internazionale, who wrapped up their victory in 16 minutes, and with European Cup holders AC Milan moving steadily up the table, Napoli's position looks increasingly under threat.

"If we continue to play with this form and with this attitude the championship is wide open," Internazionale coach Giovanni Trapattoni said after his team's commanding win.

With 15 points out of a possible 16 in the last eight matches, Milan are now only three points adrift of Napoli and have an easy match in hand against Verona.

"We're up there in the fight for the championship and we won't give up until the end," said Milan coach Arrigo Sacchi.

Miracles were also in evidence in Spain with Real Madrid goalkeeper Francisco Buayo performing similar last-minute heroics to Maradona to keep his team six points clear at the top.

"Miraculous Buayo" said the sports newspaper as after the keeper had celebrated his 32nd birthday by defending Real's 1-0 lead with a series of amazing saves in the final minutes.

Emilio Butragueno scored the only goal in a game marked by Real's uneasiness in defence. "We can't be brilliant always ... but we held to that small difference," he said.

"The game went as we anticipated," said coach John Toshack after the game at Oviedo. "But we lost our main virtue, which is to keep the ball and play calmly."

Barcelona and Atletico Madrid move up to second and third places while Valencia, previously second, go fourth after losing 1-0 at Logrono in their first defeat in 15 games.

Atletico's Paulo Futre received his fourth yellow card in their 3-1 win over Sporting Gijon and will miss next week's crucial game against Valencia while Barcelona, who beat Zaragoza 3-1, will lose midfielder Luis Milla for the same reason.

Coach Javier Clemente said Atletico's first half hour was "some of the worst I have ever seen ... then we came back in five minutes because we got angry."

Miandad leads Pakistan's battle for survival

MELBOURNE, Jan 15, (Reuters): Javed Miandad led a grim Pakistan battle for survival after Australia's pacemen had again ripped batting on the fourth day of the first cricket Test today.

But with Miandad also falling shortly before the close, Pakistan were struggling on 159 for four in their second innings, still needing a further 270 runs to win.

Alao Border's earlier declaration when Australia had reached 312 for eight in their second innings left Pakistan needing a massive 429, more than any side has scored in the fourth innings to win a Test match.

An Australian victory within four days had looked possible after Merv Hughes and Terry Alderman reduced Pakistan to 31 for three. But a resolute century stand between Miandad and Ejaz Ahmed gave the visitors' scorecard a more respectable appearance.

The Pakistan vice-captain went down the Australian speed attack but when he had made 65 he fell to the gentle medium pace of Steve Waugh playing across the line to a ball which kept low.

Ejaz batted through to the close to finish unbeaten on 46 with his captain Imran Khan 13 not out.

Earlier in the day Hughes blas-



Border: hit an unbeaten 62

ted a quick 32 after Australia had resumed their second innings at 260 for seven.

He and Border took the total to 305 before Hughes failed to get behind a lifter from Wasim Akram and was caught in the gully by Mansoor Akhtar.

Border, who finished with an unbeaten 62, promptly decided to declare after new batsman Alderman was struck on the helmet by another rising delivery from Wasim.

Wasim, who frequently beat the bat, finished with five for 98



Miandad drives a ball for four. (Reuters wirephoto)

to take his match figures to 11 for 160.

A repeat of Pakistan's dismal first innings, when they were dismissed for a paltry 107, looked possible when Hughes had Aamer Malik caught by Mark Taylor at slip with only four on

the board.

Alderman then cut one back sharply to trap Mansoor leg before for 14 and Hughes struck again to have Shoaib Mohammad caught for 10 by David Boon at short square leg.

That brought in Ejaz to join

Miandad and the pair stoutly defied all further efforts by the Australian pace attack.

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA first innings 223 (M. Taylor 52, W. Akram six for 62) PAKISTAN first innings 107 AUSTRALIA second innings

G. Marsh c Wasim b Aaqib 24 M. Taylor c Aamer b Tauseef 101 D. Boon run out 21 A. Border not out 62

D. Jones lbw Wasim 10 S. Waugh c Younis b Wasim 3 P. Sleep b Wasim 0

L. Healy c Ejaz b Wasim 25 M. Hughes c Mansoor b Wasim 32 T. Alderman not out 159

Extras (b-2 lb-10 w-1 nb-20) 33 Total (for eight wickets declared) 312 Fall of wickets: 1-73 2-116 3-204 4-216 5-220 6-220 7-260 8-305

Did not bat: C. Rackemann Bowling: Wasim 41.4-12-98-5 (1nb), Aaqib 21.1-55-1 (5nb), Imran 8-21-0 (1nb), Waqar 22-4-68-0 (1w, 3nb), Tauseef 16-3-58-1.

PAKISTAN second innings Aamer Malik c Taylor b Hughes 0 Mansoor Akhtar lbw b Alderman 14 Shoaib Mohammad c Boon b Hughes 10

Javed Miandad lbw b Waugh 65 Ejaz Ahmed not out 48 Imran Khan not out 139 Extras (b-1 lb-3 w-1 nb-6) 159 Total (for four wickets) 312

Fall of wickets: 1-42 2-23 3-14 4-124 Bowling (to date): Hughes 21-7-30-2, Rackemann 19-5-44-0 (1w, 3nb), Alderman 12-0-57-1 (3nb), Sleep 2-0-11-8, Waugh 3-0-13-1.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Royals cricket

EVERSHINE meet Kifco in the Rothmans Royals cricket finals, on January 19th, at the Ahmadi grounds organised by the Unity Cricketers. The game will start at 09:00 am. Aref Essa manager for Rothmans will be the chief guest and distribute the prizes. All cricket fans are welcome to witness this finals as top cricketers in Kuwait will be seen in action.

Formula One

KYALAMI, South Africa, Jan 15, (Reuters): The scream of Formula One engines returned to South Africa for the first time in over four years today when a Williams team began testing two new cars at Kyalami circuit near Johannesburg.

Painter suspended

LONDON, Jan 15, (AP): English shot put and discus thrower John Painter has been suspended from competition for two weeks because he evaded a drug test, the Amateur Athletics Association said today.

Robson picks 30 players

LONDON, Jan 15, (UPI): England national soccer team manager Bobby Robson has named a 30-strong squad for a World Cup get-together at Lillleshall, England on January 22. The players in the squad are likely to form the basis of England's squad for the World Cup in Italy.

The squad is: Peter Shilton (Derby), Chris Woods (Glasgow Rangers), David Seaman (Queen's Park Rangers), Dave Beasant (Chelsea), Gary Stevens (Glasgow Rangers), Paul Parker (Queen's Park Rangers), Ian Snodin (Everton), Stuart Pearce (Nottingham Forest), Tony Donaghy (Chelsea), Steve Hodge (Nottingham Forest), Steve McMahon (Liverpool), David Rocastle (Arsenal), Paul Gascoigne (Tottenham), Gary Lineker (Tottenham), John Barnes (Liverpool), Peter Beardsley (Liverpool), David Platt (Aston Villa), Steve Bull (Wolverhampton), Alan Smith (Arsenal), Mike Newell (Everton).

Manchester United's Neil Webb has also been invited to attend the get-together although he is still unavailable through injury, while Chris Waddle is unable to appear because of commitments to his French club Marseille.

Gujarat beat Eleven Star

GUJARAT Cricket Club defeated Eleven Star Cricket Club by 34 runs in their first match of the Amar Cricket Tournament on Friday at the Shuwaikh New Ground.

Put into bat GCC lost opener Rafiq for only one run. Mubarak joined Tanveer and they added 30 runs for the 2nd wicket before Tanveer was leg-before for 19. Saleem then played with great confidence while Mubarak gave him good support with 20 runs. Wahab hammered 28 quick runs with help of 5 hits to the fence. Saleem, playing cautiously was caught for 42 as GCC reached 137 in 25 allotted overs for the loss of six wickets. For Eleven Star, Salaududdin and Wahab claimed two wickets each while Mubarak and Hanif got one each.

In reply, Eleven Star were bundled out for 103 runs. Hanif was the top scorer for Eleven Star with 38 runs, while Saleem 16, Nasser 13 and Mubarak 11 were others to get into double figures.

For GCC, Wahab bowled magnificently to make life more difficult for the Stars. Wahab bowled 4.2 overs taking four for only 16 runs, while Saleem, Essa, Rehman and Gaffar claimed one wicket each.